
**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)**

Sixteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional
Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the
Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.61/6/1
21 April 2025
Original: English

Sliema, Malta, 13-15 May 2025

Agenda Item 6: Illegal and accidental oil and HNS pollution from ship

Marine Pollution Monitoring: Results of the Survey on Needs of Capacity Building on the use of IMAP CI

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Note by the Secretariat

This document provides information on the response to the Online Periodical Survey for updating data on Oil and HNS spills, and proposes possible considerations to improve reporting by Contracting Parties on Oil and HNS Spills

Background

1 Under the Mediterranean Strategy 2022–2031, the specific objective CSO1 ‘Prevent, prepare for, and respond to operational, illegal and accidental oil and HNS pollution from ships’ acknowledges that risks associated with the transport by ships of oil and HNS cannot be eliminated, and that accidents may still occur. Moreover, under the Mediterranean Strategy’s Action Plan the goal is to ensure that 80% of the incidents and the presence, characteristics and extent of spillages of oil and HNS are reported, through the Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS) and inter-linked reporting databases, such as the IMAP and MEDGIS-MAR.

2 The 15th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (Malta, June 2023), stressed that MEDGIS-MAR remained the unique source of information provided by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (CPs) and REMPEC about accidents, as well as oil and HNS spills in the Mediterranean. It also recognised that, although the information on spills continued to be collected under MEDGIS-MAR layer ‘Accident’ this data remained under reported on the BCRS, developed by COP 20 Decision IG.23/1, and not necessarily representative of oil spills from ships under the threshold of 50m³, acute pollution, and those from sources other than ships.

3 The 15th Meeting also agreed to:

- .1 adopt an approach of periodic updating through online surveys facilitating the CPs to inform on their last update on both databases;
- .2 encourage the CPs to contribute to this work, which was also beneficial for their reporting under the MARPOL Convention as well as the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

The Online Surveys

4 The Regional Workshop on Reporting, Monitoring and Data Sharing (MEDEXPOL 2024), organized by REMPEC in Malta from 25 to 26 September 2024, in accordance with the recommendation of the 15th Focal Points Meeting, considered the outputs of the 1st survey published in January 2024. The Workshop confirmed the usefulness of the process of the Online Periodical Survey to update on oil and HNS spills and recognized the need for further details to be included such as the mention of the CP. It also recommended the CPs to continue responding to the Online surveys on spills, until April 2025 (with the Survey frequency to be reduced to one report every three (3) months) and to the Secretariat to present the results of the surveys to support discussions on establishing thresholds for oil spills and acute pollution, as laid down in document REMPEC/WG.61/6/2, in relation to IMAP CI 19.

5 In this context, three (3) surveys were relaunched. These covered Q3 2024, with the survey published on 31 October 2024; Q4 2024, published on 22 January 2025; and Q1 2025, published on 2 April 2025.

6 It is important to recall that the surveys neither duplicate nor replace any existing reporting system. They provide preliminary information on spills, serving as a reference for additional reporting when detailed investigation of specific incidents is required. The results of the surveys are summarized in the table below and illustrated by the Consolidated Survey Results contained in the **Annex** to this document.

Survey		Jan 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025
1. Contracting Party		Not requested	Not requested	Provided (4 CPs)	Provided (3 CPs)
2. Pollution incident	Yes	1	45	16 (1CP)	8 (1 CP)
	No	1	5	3	2
3. Date of Spill		Not requested	Not requested	Provided	Provided
4. Source of pollution	Ship/offshore installation		24	10	
	Land-based	1	4	3	
	Unknown		17	4	8
5. Type of pollutant	Oil	1	43	16	8
	HNS		1	1	
6. Type of pollutant Oil	Crude oil <50m3			2	
	Oil (Fuel, Diesel, Gas, etc)	1	32	10	6
	Bunker		4	3	
	Other		6	1	2
7. Type of pollutant HNS	Gas				
	Liquid		1	1	
	Solid Bulk				
	Package				
8. Location of incident	Harbor		31	16	
	Offshore		8		5
	Coastline	1	5	1	3
9. Action taken and lessons learnt (optional)		-	16	2	-

7 As provided in the table above, to date, there is very limited response from CPs to the survey and the results may not be representative of the current situation in the Mediterranean when it comes to occurrence of spills.

8 In line with the conclusions of MEDEXPOL 2024, that CPs should consider more closely the added value and benefits at national level and beyond (e.g. statistical purposes, trends and outlooks) of reporting on and implementation of the legal instruments. The survey is aimed to address areas not currently covered by the MEDGIS-MAR 'Accident' layer, such as spills from other sources than ships, and will contribute to:

- .1 provide statistical information to be used for the proposed new layer 'Spill' on MEDGIS-MAR, during the revision of MEDGIS-MAR, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.61/6/4/2 on the Upgrading of Databases and REMPEC Platforms;

.2 support countries in applying the recommendation of the Decision IG.26/3 of COP 23 on the submission of the report on incidents and spills (Part III of the BCRS template of the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol); and

.3 support the development of statistics within the framework of the mechanism for regular updating of data for the Focal Points Meetings and the periodic publication, as outlined in document REMPEC/WG.61/6 'Maritime Traffic and Offshore Oil and Gas Activities – Trends and Outlook'.

The Way Forward

9 Based on the developments and benefits outlined above—which contribute towards achieving Specific Objective 1 of the Mediterranean Strategy 2022–2031—the Secretariat proposes to the Meeting to:

- .1 agree on the continuation of the survey every quarter, for the next biennium; and
- .2 encourage the CPs to complete the surveys, even if no spill has occurred during the survey period, to ensure the consistency of the statistics.

Actions requested by the Meeting

10 **The Meeting is invited to:**

- .1 **take note** of the information provided in the present document; and
- .2 **comment** as deemed appropriate.

Annex
Consolidated Survey Results

Survey January 2024 / Questionnaire Janvier 2024

Responses

2

Responses Overview / Aperçu des réponses

1. Pollution incident / Incident de pollution

- Yes, if yes please continue to question 2 / Oui, si oui, veuillez passer à la question 2
- No / Non

1

1



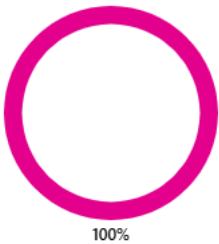
2. Source of pollution / Source de pollution

- Ship/offshore installation / Navire / installation offshore
- Land-based / Terrestre
- Unknown / Inconnu

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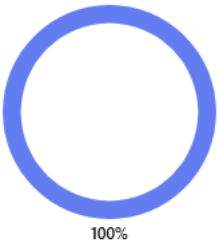


3. Type of pollutant / Type de polluant

- Oil / Hydrocarbure
- HNS / SNPD

1

0



4. If type of pollutant is oil, please tick relevant box. / Si le type de polluant est de l'hydrocarbure, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

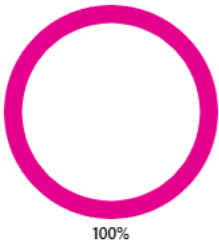
- Crude oil <50m3 / Pétrole brut <50m3
- Oil (Fuel, Diesel, Gas, etc) / Pétrole (carburant, diesel, gazoil, etc.)
- Bunker / Hydrocarbure de soute
- Other / Autre

0

1

0

0



5. If type of pollutant is HNS, please tick relevant box / Si le type de polluant est de l'SNPD, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

Gas / Gaz	0
Liquid / Liquide	0
Solid bulk / Vrac solide	0
Package / Emballage	0

6. Location of incident / Lieu de l'incident

<input type="radio"/> Harbour / Port	0
<input type="radio"/> Offshore / En mer	0
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Coastline / Littoral	1



Surveys Q3 and Q4 2024 / Questionnaires Q3 et Q4 2024

Responses

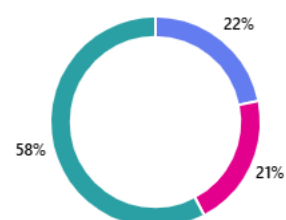
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Responses Overview / Aperçu des réponses

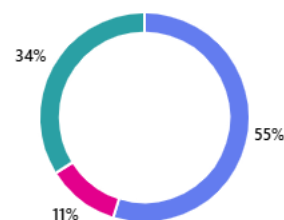
1. Pollution incident / Incident de pollution

● Yes, if yes please continue to question 3/ Oui, si oui, veuillez passer à la question 3	17
● No / Non	16
● Other	45



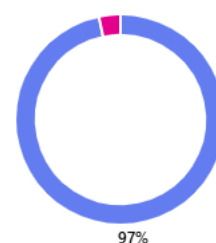
2. Source of pollution / Source de pollution

● Ship/offshore installation / Navire / installation offshore	34
● Land-based / Terrestre	7
● Unknown / Inconnu	21



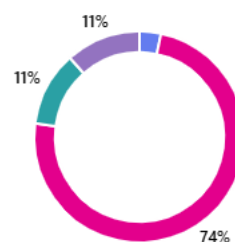
3. Type of pollutant / Type de polluant

● Oil / Hydrocarbure	59
● HNS / SNPD	2



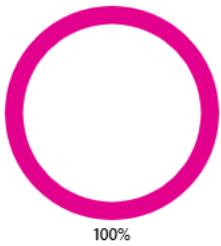
4. If type of pollutant is oil, please tick relevant box. / Si le type de polluant est de l'hydrocarbure, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

● Crude oil <50m3 / Pétrole brut <50m3	2
● Oil (Fuel, Diesel, Gas, etc) / Pétrole (carburant, diesel, gazoil, etc.)	45
● Bunker / Hydrocarbure de soute	7
● Other / Autre	7



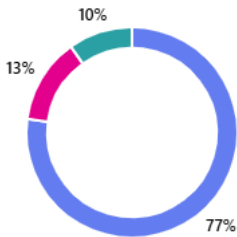
5. If type of pollutant is HNS, please tick relevant box / Si le type de polluant est de l'SNPD, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

● Gas / Gaz	0
● Liquid / Liquide	2
● Solid bulk / Vrac solide	0
● Package / Emballage	0



6. Location of incident / Lieu de l'incident

● Harbour / Port	47
● Offshore / En mer	8
● Coastline / Littoral	6



Survey Q1 2025 / Questionnaire Q1 2025

Responses

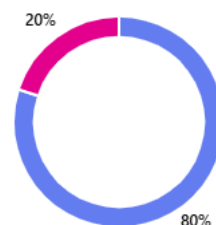
10



Responses Overview / Aperçu des réponses

1. Pollution incident / Incident de pollution

- Yes, if yes please continue to question 3/ Oui, si oui, veuillez passer à la question 3 8
- No / Non 2



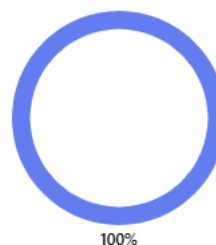
2. Source of pollution / Source de pollution

- Ship/offshore installation / Navire / installation offshore 0
- Land-based / Terrestre 0
- Unknown / Inconnu 8



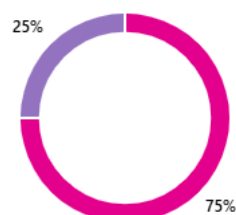
3. Type of pollutant / Type de polluant

- Oil / Hydrocarbure 8
- HNS / SNPD 0



4. If type of pollutant is oil, please tick relevant box. / Si le type de polluant est de l'hydrocarbure, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

- Crude oil <50m3 / Pétrole brut <50m3 0
- Oil (Fuel, Diesel, Gas, etc) / Pétrole (carburant, diesel, gazoil, etc.) 6
- Bunker / Hydrocarbure de soute 0
- Other / Autre 2



5. If type of pollutant is HNS, please tick relevant box / Si le type de polluant est de l'SNPD, veuillez cocher la case correspondante.

Gas / Gaz	0
Liquid / Liquide	0
Solid bulk / Vrac solide	0
Package / Emballage	0

6. Location of incident / Lieu de l'incident

● Habour / Port	5
● Offshore / En mer	0
● Coastline / Littoral	3

