



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



INTERNATIONAL
MARITIME
ORGANIZATION

REGIONAL WORKSHOP

ON THE CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION OF

IMO 2020 AND THE 0.10% SULPHUR LIMIT

UNDER ANNEX VI TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF

POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (MARPOL)

IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA EMISSION CONTROL AREA FOR SULPHUR OXIDES AND

PARTICULATE MATTER (MED SO_x ECA)

Malta, 22-23 May 2024

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED PROGRAMME

Introduction

1 The Regional Workshop on the consistent implementation of IMO 2020 and the 0.10% sulphur limit under Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) in the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter (Med SO_x ECA), hereinafter referred to as 'the Workshop', is being convened in Lija, Malta from 22 to 23 May 2024.

2 The Workshop, which is organised by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), in close cooperation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), is financed by the IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) and the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF).

3 The 79th Session of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) (London, UK, 12-16 December 2022) adopted amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the Med SO_x ECA, with an expected date of entry into effective application on 1 May 2025. The Fifteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (Malta, 13-15 June 2023) called upon the Secretariat (REMPEC) to provide support for the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA during the biennium 2024-2025.

4 In this context, the principal objectives of the Workshop will be:

- .1 to raise awareness on MARPOL Annex VI and related Guidelines, notably the consistent implementation of IMO 2020 and the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA;
- .2 to strengthen regional capacity for an effective implementation and enforcement of MARPOL Annex VI;
- .3 to assist countries in the region, where applicable, to accept MARPOL Annex VI;
- .4 to exchange about best practices, including lessons learned from other Emission Control Areas (ECAs) that were established by IMO (e.g. the Baltic Sea area; the North Sea area); and
- .5 to review the Guidance Document on the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA, prepared by REMPEC.

5 The target audience for the Workshop are Government officials responsible for ratification, implementation and enforcement of MARPOL Annex VI. All REMPEC Prevention Focal Points were invited to nominate jointly and, in consultation with the REMPEC Governmental Focal Points, their representatives in the Workshop. Some participants will represent authorities/organisations responsible for the regulation of shipping, and other participants will represent authorities/organisations in charge of issues related to the marine environment.

6 In order to assist the Workshop in its work, the Secretariat prepared the following annotations to the proposed provisional programme of the Workshop.

Working Languages

7 The working languages of the Workshop will be English and French. Certain material/documents will be available in both languages, while other, including the presentations, will be available in English only. All working documents will be available in both languages. Information documents will be available in their original language unless a translation is provided in the second working language. Simultaneous English and French interpretation services will be provided during the Workshop.

Day 1

Opening session

8 The Workshop will open on Wednesday, 22 May 2024 at 0900 hours.

9 REMPEC representatives will make opening remarks, provide an overview of the objectives of the Workshop, and introduce the programme as well as the facilitators.

10 Participants will be encouraged to introduce themselves, notably mentioning if they represent an authority/organisation responsible for the regulation of shipping or an authority/organisation in charge of issues related to the marine environment.

Introduction to MARPOL Annex VI

11 Dr John Calleya, Technical Officer, Subdivision for Protective Measures, Marine Environment Division, IMO, will introduce MARPOL Annex VI, by providing an overview, presenting MARPOL Annex VI regulation 14 (SO_x and particulate matter), notably IMO 2020 and the Emission Control Areas (ECAs), as well as referring to the 2019 Guidelines for consistent implementation of IMO 2020 under MARPOL Annex VI and the latest developments on new ECAs.

Med SO_x ECA under MARPOL Annex VI

12 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, will introduce the Med SO_x ECA under MARPOL Annex VI, by explaining what it means, to which ships it will apply, and when it will enter into effective application.

13 Participants will be encouraged to interact using the Kahoot! learning platform.

Round table discussions on challenges and opportunities arising from MARPOL Annex VI and the Med SO_x ECA

14 The Secretariat will introduce the round table discussions on challenges and opportunities arising from MARPOL Annex VI and the Med SO_x ECA, referring to the current status regarding the ratification of MARPOL Annex VI in the Mediterranean region.

15 During the round table discussions, participants will be encouraged to briefly present their views on the following questions:

- .1 what is the current status regarding MARPOL Annex VI in their country: ratification, implementation, and enforcement?
- .2 what are the challenges being encountered with MARPOL Annex VI?
- .3 what are the challenges foreseen with the Med SO_x ECA?
- .4 what are the underlying needs and gaps facing Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention?
- .5 what are the opportunities arising from MARPOL Annex VI and the Med SO_x ECA?

Introduction to MARPOL Annex VI ratification process

16 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, will introduce the MARPOL Annex VI ratification process, referring to the legislative, policy and infrastructure preparation, procedure requirements (IMO), MARPOL – How to do it, and the benefits of acceptance of MARPOL Annex VI.

MARPOL Annex VI and sulphur regulations

17 Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will present MARPOL Annex VI and sulphur regulations, by referring to the certification, exemptions, equivalents, enforcement, fuel availability and quality, as well as the exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS).

National implementation of IMO 2020 and the Med SO_x ECA

18 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, will present what is required for the national implementation of IMO 2020 and the Med SO_x ECA, by referring to domestic legislation, the incorporation of MARPOL Annex VI into national law (Ship Emissions Toolkit, Guide No.2), the regulatory oversight, as well as public and stakeholder awareness.

Inspections within the Med SO_x ECA

19 Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will present inspections within the Med SO_x ECA, referring to general aspects and procedures of port State control (PSC), PSC for sulphur content compliance, initial and clear grounds, fuel type used on board, fuel (non) availability and procedures, as well as actions to be taken in case of non-compliance.

Review of draft Guidance Document on the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA

20 The Secretariat, together with Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, and Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will introduce the draft Guidance Document on the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA.

21 Participants will be encouraged to present their views on the draft Guidance Document on the consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA during group and plenary discussions moderated by the Secretariat as well as Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, and Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant.

22 Participants will be invited to take note of the information provided as well as to comment, as deemed appropriate.

Day 2

Recap of Day 1

23 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, and Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will make a recap of Day 1.

The EU Sulphur Directive

24 Mr Sergio Alda, Senior Project Officer, European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), will present Directive (EU) 2016/802 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 relating to a reduction in the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels (the “EU Sulphur Directive”), referring to the key features, the Union database, practicalities of implementation and enforcement, alerts and remote monitoring of emissions, training and background of enforcement personnel, as well as evolution of air pollution in the various EU regions, including the Mediterranean.

Experiences with bunkering compliant fuel in the port of Rotterdam, The Netherlands

25 Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will share experiences with bunkering compliant fuel in the port of Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Preparation of stakeholders for the Med SO_x ECA

26 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, will present how stakeholders, notably shipowners, shipbuilders, fuel oil suppliers, ports, and other stakeholders, should prepare for the Med SO_x ECA.

Monitoring of SO_x emissions and sampling

27 Mr Meindert Vink, REMPEC consultant, will present the monitoring of SO_x emissions and sampling, notably by air, on board (by sampling), and the response in case of high sulphur.

Lessons learned from other SO_x ECAs

28 Lessons learned from other SO_x ECAs will be shared, notably for the Baltic Sea SO_x ECA and the North Sea SO_x ECA.

Identification of actions needed for a consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA on 1 May 2025

29 The Secretariat will introduce the discussions on the identification of actions needed for a consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA on 1 May 2025.

30 Participants will be encouraged to briefly present their views on the actions needed for a consistent implementation of the 0.10% sulphur limit under MARPOL Annex VI in the Med SO_x ECA on 1 May 2025.

The future of MARPOL Annex VI and sulphur regulations

31 Mr Dick Brus, REMPEC consultant, will present the future of MARPOL Annex VI and sulphur regulations.

Draft conclusions and recommendations

32 Participants will be invited to review, amend, as appropriate, and adopt draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the Workshop discussions, as prepared by the Secretariat.

33 The report of the Workshop will be prepared and circulated after the Workshop.

Workshop close-out session

- 34 REMPEC representatives will make closing remarks and present certificates to participants.
- 35 The Workshop is expected to close on Thursday, 23 May 2024 at 1730 hours.