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

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Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of  
Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL  
within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS)

REMPEC/WG.38/1/1  
Date: 25 September 2015

Toulon, France, 29 September – 1 October 2015

Original: English

Agenda Item 1

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DRAFT TIMETABLE**

**Note by the Secretariat**

**SUMMARY**

**Executive Summary:** This document provides brief information on the action to be taken by the Meeting as well as a draft timetable for the Meeting. This timetable prepared by the Secretariat is of a tentative nature and may be modified by the Meeting, as appropriate.

**Action to be taken:** As indicated under each agenda item.

**Related documents:** REMPEC/WG.38/1

**Introduction**

1 The Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) is being convened in Toulon, France between the 29 September 2015 and 1 October 2015, pursuant to the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)'s Programme of Work for 2014-2015 adopted by the Eighteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean ("the Barcelona Convention") and its Protocols, which was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 6 December 2013.

2 The principal objectives of the Meeting will be to present regional and international developments relevant to MENELAS, discuss various issues related to illicit ship pollution discharges, from collecting, recording and documenting evidence, to carrying out coordinated aerial surveillance operations as well as reporting. The Meeting will also be an opportunity to launch the MENELAS information system, share information on present cases of interest and discuss cooperation with other regional and international organisations.

3 All MENELAS Designated Representatives have been invited to nominate jointly and, in consultation with REMPEC Prevention Focal Points, the representatives attending the Meeting. The invitation to participate in the Meeting has also been extended to observers from relevant regional and international organisations and associations whose activities are relevant for the work of MENELAS.

4 In order to assist the Meeting in its work, REMPEC prepared the following annotations to the proposed provisional agenda of the Meeting.

### **Opening of the Meeting**

5 The Meeting will open on Tuesday, 29th September 2015 at 09:00 hours and is expected to close on Thursday, 1st October 2015 at 12:30 hours.

### **Organisation of the Meeting**

#### **Rules of Procedure**

6 The Rules of procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the deliberations of this Meeting.

#### **Election of Officers**

**The Meeting will be invited** to elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur.

#### **Working Languages**

7 The working languages of the Meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation will be provided during the Meeting. All working documents will be available in both official languages of the Centre, i.e. in English and in French. Information documents will be available in their original language unless a translation is provided in the second working language.

#### **Agenda Item 1**      **Adoption of the Agenda**

8 The agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.38/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting. The Meeting will also be invited to agree on a timetable to carry out its work. A draft timetable is proposed in the Annex to the present document.

#### **Agenda Item 2**      **Regional and international developments relevant to MENELAS**

9 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will deliver a presentation on Annex I to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) – Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Oil.

10 The Secretariat will also provide information on regional and international developments relevant to MENELAS, including the adoption of its Terms of Reference by the Eighteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013), as detailed in the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.38/INF.3.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 3**      **Collecting, recording and documenting evidence of illicit ship pollution discharges**

11 The Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.38/3 which provides information on standard pollution reporting formats.

12 Participants will be encouraged to present their national procedures with regard to collecting, recording and documenting evidence of illicit ship pollution discharges.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 4**      **Coordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean**

13 The Secretariat will provide brief information on coordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

14 The representative of the RAMOGE Agreement will introduce OSCAR-MED 2015 (Opération de Surveillance Coordonnée Aérienne des Rejets en Méditerranée), which will be held at a place and a time of the year remaining confidential until finish, with the purpose of detecting illicit ship pollution discharges in the RAMOGE area.

15 Participants will be encouraged to provide information on their national activities with regard to aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges and share their views on how to enhance operational cooperation in the Mediterranean region to combat illicit ship pollution.

16 A visit will be organised to an operational centre on Tuesday, 29 September 2015 between 14:30 hours and 17:30 p.m.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 5**                    **Reporting illicit ship pollution discharges**

17 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present document REMPEC/WG.38/5 providing information on the MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges and reporting format.

18 Participants will be encouraged to present their national procedures with regard to reporting illicit ship pollution discharges, especially to other regional and international organisations to which they may be Parties.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 6**                    **MENELAS information system**

19 The Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.38/6 which provides information on the MENELAS information system, including the status of its development and areas on which input from participating Mediterranean coastal States in the network is necessary with a view to officially launching it by the end of October 2015.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 7**                    **Presentation of cases of interest**

20 Under this agenda item, participants will be encouraged to provide information on cases of interest, including possible pollution offences or other related matters.

21 The representative of the European Union will introduce document REMPEC/WG.38/INF.4 containing HELCOM Recommendation 19/14 on a harmonized system of fines in case a ship violates anti-pollution regulations.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

#### **Agenda Item 8**                    **Cooperation with other regional and international organisations**

22 The Secretariat will provide information on the state of play of cooperation with other regional and international organisations.

23 Participants will be encouraged to update the Meeting on recent developments in other regional and international organisations as well to share their views on how to enhance cooperation between the said organisations and MENELAS with regard to issues related to illicit ship pollution discharges.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

**Agenda Item 9**                    **Election of Chair for the period 2016-2017**

24        **The Meeting will be invited** to elect a Chairperson for the period 2016-2017.

**Agenda Item 10**                    **Future work and meetings**

25        Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on the next MENELAS meeting and related meetings.

26        Participants will be encouraged to share their views on future work with a view to deciding on a proposed programme of activities for the following year taking into account possible national initiatives or proposals and on the establishment of any working groups and their terms of reference, as appropriate.

**The Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

**Agenda Item 11**                    **Other business**

27        **The Meeting will be invited** to consider any other matters that may be raised under this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 12**                    **Conclusions and recommendations**

28        Under this agenda item, the Meeting will review, amend, as appropriate, and adopt draft conclusions and recommendations that will result from the meeting discussions, as prepared by the Rapporteur.

29        The report of the Meeting will be prepared and circulated after the meeting.

**Closure of the Meeting**

30        The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson at 12.30 hours on Thursday, 1st October 2015.

**Annex I – Draft timetable**

<b>Day 1 – Tuesday, 29 September 2015</b>		
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration of the participants</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Opening of the Meeting	
09:15 – 09:30	Agenda Item 1	Adoption of the Agenda
09:30 – 10:00	Agenda Item 2	Regional and international developments relevant to MENELAS
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
10:30 – 12:00	Agenda Item 3	Collecting, recording and documenting evidence of illicit ship pollution discharges
12:00 – 13:00	Agenda Item 4	Coordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean – <i>Introduction</i>
13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
14:30 – 17:30	Agenda Item 4 (cont.)	Coordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean – <i>Visit to an operational centre</i>

<b>Day 2 – Wednesday, 30 September 2015</b>		
09:30 – 10:30	Agenda Item 5	Reporting illicit ship pollution discharges
10:30 – 11:00	Agenda Item 6	MENELAS information system
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:30 – 13:00	Agenda Item 7	Presentation of cases of interest
13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
14:30 – 16:00	Agenda Item 8	Cooperation with other regional and international organisations
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Coffee break</b>	
16:30 – 17:30	Agenda Item 4 (cont.)	Coordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean – <i>Wrap-up</i>

<b>Day 3 – Thursday, 1 October 2015</b>		
09:00 – 09:15	Agenda Item 9	Election of Chair for the period 2016-2017
09:15 – 10:00	Agenda Item 10	Future work and meetings
10:00 – 10:30	Agenda Item 11	Other business
10:30 – 11:00	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>	
11:00 – 12:00	Agenda Item 12	Conclusions and recommendations
12:00 – 12:30	Closure of the Meeting	