



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

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

REMPEC/WG.46/1/1*
Date: 14 Octobre 2019

Valletta, Malta, 15-16 October 2019

Original: French

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.

Actions to be taken: As indicated under each agenda item.

Related documents: UNEP/IG.43/6, UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28, UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/23, REMPEC/WG.46/1, REMPEC/WG.46/INF.3, REMPEC/WG.46/INF.4, REMPEC/WG.46/INF.5, REMPEC/WG.46/INF.6

Introduction

1 The Third Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) within the framework of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean ("the Barcelona Convention") (MENELAS), hereinafter referred to as the Meeting, is being convened at the premises of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) in Valletta, Malta from 15 to 16 October 2019, pursuant to the Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, adopted by the Twentieth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017) (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/23).

2 The principal objectives of the Meeting are:

- .1 to examine the implementation of the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2018-2019, including the report of the MENELAS Working Group established by the Second Meeting of MENELAS (Valletta, Malta, 28-29 November 2017), and to discuss about operational cooperation to combat illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean as well as cooperation with other regional and international organisations; and
- .2 to discuss and agree on the items to be included in the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2020-2021 and elect the chair of the network for the said period.

* Reissued for technical reasons.

3 All MENELAS Designated Representatives were invited to nominate jointly and, in consultation with the REMPEC Prevention Focal Points, their representatives in the Meeting. The invitation to participate in the Meeting was also extended to observers from relevant regional and international organisations, the activities of which are relevant to the objectives of the Meeting.

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

Opening of the Meeting

5 The Meeting will open on Tuesday, 15 October 2019 at 0900 hours and is expected to close on Wednesday, 16 October 2019 at 1700 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.46/1 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 **New administrative and judicial cooperation tools**

9 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on new administrative and judicial cooperation tools, namely a common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report and a regional "Blue Fund".

10 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the Report of the Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) (Valletta, Malta, 28-29 November 2017), as presented in the Appendix to Document REMPEC/WG.46/INF.5, as well as the establishment of the working group within MENELAS, which was to work through correspondence coordinated by the Secretariat (REMPEC).

11 Participants will be encouraged to briefly present their views on the above-mentioned new administrative and judicial cooperation tools.

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

Agenda Item 3 **Possible establishment of an intervention mechanism and harmonisation of pecuniary sanctions for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean**

12 The Secretariat will provide information on the possible establishment of an intervention mechanism and harmonisation of pecuniary sanctions for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

13 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the Report of the Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) (Valletta, Malta, 28-29 November 2017), as presented in the Appendix to Document REMPEC/WG.46/INF.5, as well as the establishment of the working group within MENELAS, which was to work through correspondence coordinated by the Secretariat (REMPEC).

14 Participants will be encouraged to briefly present their views on the possible establishment of an intervention mechanism and harmonisation of pecuniary sanctions for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

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

Agenda Item 4 **Establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean**

15 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on the establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

16 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the upgrade of the Mediterranean Integrated Geographical Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response (MEDGIS-MAR), which now includes a layer related to illicit ship pollution discharges.

17 The representative from the European Union (EU) will deliver a presentation on the development of a harmonised reporting template in accordance with Article 12 of Directive 2005/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on ship-source pollution and on the introduction of penalties for infringements, as amended, especially taking into account the outcome of the work of the Correspondence Group on Ship-Source Pollution (SSP).

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

Agenda Item 5 **Measures to charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system**

18 The Secretariat will provide information on measures to charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system.

19 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the various activities it has been implementing with regard to the better management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas in the Mediterranean, within the framework of the EU-funded "Marine Litter-MED" Project as well as the Cooperation Agreement between the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS) and UNEP..

20 The Secretariat will also introduce Draft Decision IG.24/11: Guidelines: Adopt-a-Beach; Phase-out of Single Use Plastic Bags; Provision of Reception Facilities in Ports and the Delivery of Ship-Generated Wastes; Application of Charges at Reasonable Costs for the Use of Port Reception Facilities, as presented in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.46/INF.3, and, most notably:

- .1 the Operational Guidelines on the Provision of Reception Facilities in Ports and the Delivery of Ship-Generated Wastes in the Mediterranean, as set out in Annex III to the said decision; and

- .2 the Guidance Document to Determine the Application of Charges at Reasonable Costs for the Use of Port Reception Facilities or, when Applicable, Application of the No-Special-Fee System, in the Mediterranean, as set out in Annex IV to the said decision.

21 Moreover, the Secretariat will introduce the study based on a literature review on existing best practices in the Mediterranean as well as other European regional seas for the application of charges at reasonable costs and of the No-Special-Fee system for the use of port reception facilities, as presented in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.46/INF.4.

22 Finally, the EU representative will deliver a presentation on the newly-adopted Directive (EU) 2019/883 on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships.

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

Agenda Item 6 **Operational cooperation to combat illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean**

23 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on operational cooperation to combat illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

24 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the various activities it has been liaising on with the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), the General Secretariat of the International Criminal Police Organization-INTERPOL as well as the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF).

25 The representative from Integrated Ocean Tracking Solutions (IOTS) will deliver a presentation to present in particular their services as well as introduce a proposed pilot providing free access to their oil illicit discharges detection services.

26 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 to combat illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

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

Agenda Item 7 **Cooperation with other regional and international organisations**

27 The Secretariat will provide information on cooperation with other regional and international organisations.

28 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the Report on the Activities of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) for the period from June 2017 to July 2019, as requested by Decision IG.21/9, which was submitted to the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 10-13 September 2019), for its consideration, as presented in the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.46/INF.6.

29 The representative from the Environment Laboratories of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will deliver a presentation on the work of the IAEA within OSINet, the oil spill identification network of experts from the Agreement for Cooperation in Dealing with Pollution of the North Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances, 1983 (Bonn Agreement), and the possible cooperation with MENELAS, amongst others.

30 Moreover, the representatives from the *Union des Procureurs généraux de la Méditerranée* (UPGM) as well as the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) will deliver a presentation on the latest developments and activities carried out by the UPGM and IIJ, respectively.

31 Participants will be encouraged to briefly present recent developments in relevant regional and international organisations to which they are Parties.

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

Agenda Item 8 **Election of Chair for the period 2020-2021**

32 **The Meeting will be invited** to elect a Chairperson for the period 2020-2021.

Agenda Item 9 **Future work and meetings**

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

34 Participants will be encouraged to share their views on future work with a view to deciding on a proposed programme of activities for the period 2020-2021, 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 10 **Other business**

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

Agenda Item 11 **Conclusions and recommendations**

36 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.

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

Closure of the Meeting

38 The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson on Wednesday, 16 October 2019 at 1700 hours.

Annex

Draft timetable

Day 1 – Tuesday, 15 October 2019		
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration of participants</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Opening of the Meeting	
09:15 – 09:30	Agenda Item 1	Adoption of the Agenda
09:30 – 10:45	Agenda Item 2	New administrative and judicial cooperation tools: a) common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report; and
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 – 12:30	Agenda Item 2 (cont.)	New administrative and judicial cooperation tools: b) regional "Blue Fund".
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break	
14:00 – 14:45	Agenda Item 3	Possible establishment of an intervention mechanism and harmonisation of pecuniary sanctions for illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean
14:45 – 15:30	Agenda Item 4	Establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 17:00	Agenda Item 5	Measures to charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system

Day 2 – Wednesday, 16 October 2019		
09:30 – 10:15	Agenda Item 6	Operational cooperation to combat illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean
10:15 – 11:00	Agenda Item 7	Cooperation with other regional and international organisations
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	
11:30 – 12:15	Agenda Item 7 (cont.)	Cooperation with other regional and international organisations
12:15 – 12:30	Agenda Item 8	Election of Chair for the period 2020-2021
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break	
14:00 – 14:45	Agenda Item 9	Future work and meetings
14:45 – 15:00	Agenda Item 10	Other business
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break	
15:30 – 16:30	Agenda Item 11	Conclusions and recommendations
16:30 – 17:00		Closure of the Meeting