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

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

REMPEC/WG.53/1/1*
17 February 2023
Original: English

Floriana, Malta, 22-23 February 2023

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Annotated provisional agenda and draft timetable

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REMPEC
Malta, 2023

* reissued for technical reasons.

Note by the Secretariat

This document provides brief information on the actions 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.

Introduction

1 The Fifth 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 in Floriana, Malta from 22 to 23 February 2023, pursuant to the Programme of Work and Budget for 2022-2023 of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, adopted by the Twenty-second Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Antalya, Türkiye, 7-10 December 2021) (UNEP/MED IG.25/27). In-person participation will also be complemented by the use of hybrid meeting capabilities.

2 The principal objectives of the Meeting are:

- .1 to examine the implementation of the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2022-2023, notably:
 - .1 the draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report;
 - .2 the draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention; and
 - .3 modalities of possible creation and operation of a regional “Blue Fund”, including in terms of governance and financing.
- .2 to discuss about cooperation with other regional and international organisations; and
- .3 to discuss and agree on the items to be included in the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2024-2025 and elect the chair of the network for the said period.

3 All MENELAS Designated Representatives were invited to nominate jointly and, in consultation with the REMPEC Prevention Focal Points and the REMPEC Governmental 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 Wednesday, 22 February 2023 at 0900 hours and is expected to close on Thursday, 23 February 2023 at 1630 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.

[†] Malta local time or GMT+1.

Election of Officers

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

Working Languages

8 The working languages of the Meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation services 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

9 The agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.53/1 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 Draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report

10 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on the finalisation of the draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and MENELAS, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.53/2.

11 The Secretariat will refer to the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) (online, 21-22 April 2021), as presented in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.53/INF.3.

12 Participants will be encouraged to present their views on the draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report.

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

Agenda Item 3 Draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention

14 The Secretariat will provide information on the preparation of a draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.53/3.

15 In particular, the Secretariat will refer to the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) (online, 21-22 April 2021), as presented in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.53/INF.3.

16 Participants will be encouraged to present their views on the draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention.

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

Agenda Item 4 **Modalities of possible creation and operation of a regional “Blue Fund”, including in terms of governance and financing**

18 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on the draft terms of reference for the provision of consultancy services for the development of modalities of possible creation and operation of a regional “Blue Fund”, including in terms of governance and financing, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.53/4.

19 The Secretariat will refer to the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS) (online, 21-22 April 2021), as presented in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.53/INF.3.

20 Participants will be encouraged to present their views on the draft terms of reference for the provision of consultancy services for the development of modalities of possible creation and operation of a regional “Blue Fund”, including in terms of governance and financing.

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

Agenda Item 5 **Establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean**

22 The Secretariat will provide information on the establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

23 The representatives from the European Union (EU) will deliver a presentation on the latest developments regarding the revision 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, and the harmonised reporting template in accordance with Article 12 thereof.

24 Participants will be encouraged to briefly present their views on the establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean.

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

Agenda Item 6 **Cooperation with other regional and international organisations**

26 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on cooperation with other regional and international organisations.

27 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 November 2019 to October 2021, as requested by Decision IG.21/9, as presented in the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.53/INF.4.

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

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

Agenda Item 7 **Election of Chair for the period 2024-2025**

30 **The Meeting will be invited** to elect a Chairperson for the period 2024-2025.

Agenda Item 8 **Future work and meetings**

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

32 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 2024-2025, taking into account possible national initiatives or proposals, and on the establishment of any working groups and their terms of reference, as appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 9 **Other business**

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

Agenda Item 10 **Conclusions and recommendations**

35 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.

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

Closure of the Meeting

37 The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson on Thursday, 23 February 2023 at 1630 hours[‡].

[‡] Malta local time or GMT+1.

Annex

Draft timetable

Day 1 – Wednesday, 22 February 2023[§]		
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration of participants (and online access)</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the Meeting	
09:30 – 09:45	Agenda Item 1	Adoption of the Agenda
09:45 – 10:30	Agenda Item 2	Draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 – 12:30	Agenda Item 2 (cont.)	Draft common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Agenda Item 3	Draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30 – 16:15	Agenda Item 3 (cont.)	Draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention
16:15 – 17:30	Agenda Item 4	Modalities of possible creation and operation of a regional “Blue Fund”, including in terms of governance and financing

[§] Malta local time or GMT+1.

Day 2 – Thursday, 23 February 2023**		
09:00 – 09:45	Agenda Item 5	Establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean
09:45 – 10:30	Agenda Item 6	Cooperation with other regional and international organisations
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 – 11:45	Agenda Item 6 (cont.)	Cooperation with other regional and international organisations
11:45 – 12:00	Agenda Item 7	Election of Chair for the period 2024-2025
12:00 – 12:30	Agenda Item 8	Future work and meetings
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00 – 14:15	Agenda Item 9	Other business
14:15 – 15:00	Agenda Item 10	Conclusions and recommendations
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30 – 16:15	Agenda Item 10 (cont.)	Conclusions and recommendations
16:15 – 16:30		Closure of the Meeting

** Malta local time or GMT+1.