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

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

REMPEC/WG.64/1/1
02 October 2026
Original: English

Lija, Malta, 2-3 November 2026

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

Annotated provisional agenda and draft timetable

For environmental and cost-saving reasons, this document will not be printed and is made available in electronic format only. Delegates are encouraged to consult the document in its electronic format and limit printing.

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 Seventh 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 Lija, Malta, from 2 to 3 November 2026, pursuant to the Programme of Work and Budget for 2026-2027 of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, adopted by the Twenty-fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 24) (Cairo, Egypt, 2-5 December 2025) (UNEP/MED IG.27/14).

2 The principal objectives of the Meeting are:

- .1 to examine the implementation of the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2026-2027, regarding the *Analysis on the minimum level of penalties including the development of guidelines for implementation of the Decision on minimum criteria* (Activity 1.2.7 b)), notably:
 - .1 undertake further work on the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, taking into account the outcome of the discussions held at the 16th REMPEC Focal Point Meeting;
 - .2 carry out a detailed study on the possible criteria and possible minimum level of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, as set out in the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, taking into consideration the specificities of each CP; and
 - .3 develop associated draft guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region, taking into consideration information from CPs on how quantities of waste discharged from polluting ships might be measured;
- .2 to discuss about proposals for updating the common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report;
- .3 to discuss about cooperation with other regional and international organisations;
- .4 to elect the Chair of the network for the period 2026-2027; and
- .5 to discuss and agree on the items to be included in the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2028-2029.

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 at the Meeting. The invitation to participate at 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 Monday, 2 November 2026 at 0900 hours and is expected to close on Tuesday, 3 November 2026 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

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.64/1 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 Progress Report on Activities Carried Out by MENELAS during the 2025-2027 biennium

10 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the Report on the Activities of MENELAS for the period from November 2025 to October 2026, as requested by Decision IG.21/9, as set out in Annex to document REMPEC/WG.64/2, together with relevant information on the activities carried out, in the period April – October 2026, by the Working Group within MENELAS, as set out in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3

11 In particular, the Secretariat will provide information on the implementation of the MENELAS Programme of Activities for the period 2025-2026 and on the outcome of the work of the Working Group within MENELAS over the period April-October 2026, regarding:

- .1 the development of a draft Study on the possible criteria and possible minimum level of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL; and
- .2 associated draft guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region,
- .3 comments and feedback received from the members of the working group within MENELAS, consolidated in a matrix containing the comments and the explanations of the actions taken or proposed approach, as provided in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3.

12 Participants will be encouraged to:

- .1 take note of the Report on the Activities of MENELAS for the period from November 2025 to October 2026, as set out in Annex to document REMPEC/WG.64/2, and submitted, as requested by Decision IG.21/9;
- .2 consider, comment, as appropriate, and endorse the Report of the Working Group within MENELAS, as set out in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3;
- .3 comment and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Seventeenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC to be tentatively held in May 2027.

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

Agenda Item 3 **Study on possible criteria and possible minimum levels of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL**

14 The Secretariat will provide information on the draft Study on possible criteria and possible minimum levels of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL (hereinafter referred to as the “draft Study”), as presented in document REMPEC/WG.64/3.

15 The Secretariat will also refer to the Report of the Working Group within MENELAS, as set out in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3.

16 Participants will be encouraged to discuss the draft Study, as set out in the document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.4, notably the proposed conclusions and recommendations for possible options for a way forward, as detailed in chapter PART E - Options for Minimum Criteria and Minimum Levels of Fines thereof, and in particular sections:

- E.1. Proposed Applicability of Minimum Fines for Contracting Parties
- E.2. Criteria for the Adoption of Minimum Fines
- E.3. Conclusions and Recommendations

and to guide the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention when further discussing the possible options for minimum criteria e minimum level of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL, prior to consideration by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at the Seventeenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC to be tentatively held in May 2027.

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

Agenda Item 4 **Guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region**

18 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will provide information on the associated draft Guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.64/4 and on the proposed adjustments to the text of the consolidated draft Decision, as adjusted, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.64/4/1.

19 The Secretariat will also refer to the Report of the Working Group within MENELAS, as set out in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3.

20 Participants will be encouraged to:

- .1 discuss the associated draft Guidelines, as set out in the document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.5, and provide their views and guidance on the proposed legal and technical contents contained therein, as well as on the revisions to the draft Guidelines, reflected in track changes, made following feedback and comments received from the MENELAS Working Group¹
- .2 consider the proposed adjustments to the text of the consolidated draft Decision, as adjusted, and possible way forward in relation to its effective and uniform implementation, once adopted, taking into account the findings and recommendations of the draft Study and associated draft Guidelines.

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

Agenda Item 5 **Common Marine Oil Pollution Detection/Investigation Report**

22 The Secretariat will provide information on the amendments to the Common Marine Oil Pollution Detection/Investigation Report, adopted in 2025 by the Sixteenth Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points. The amendments were already adopted within the framework of the Bonn Agreement and HELCOM, as reflected in the Aerial Operations Handbook, namely the Annex B – Standard pollution reporting log completion guide, and the Annex D - Instructions for filling in the joint Bonn Agreement/HELCOM annual reporting format on illegal discharges observed during aerial surveillance, as presented in document REMPEC/WG.64/5.

23 Participants will be encouraged to consider the proposed amendments to the Common Report, present their views and provide guidance on its following updating, with a view to ensuring alignment with the Common Report in use within the other regional framework, prior to its submission to the Seventeenth REMPEC Focal Points Meeting, for consideration.

24 **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**

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

26 The Secretariat will refer to the Report on the Activities of MENELAS for the period from November 2025 to October 2026, as set out in the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.64/2 and to REMPEC/WG.64/5 on the updating of the common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report.

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

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

¹ The consolidated matrix containing the comments and feedback provided by the Working Group within MENELAS, together with information on the actions taken to address them, is contained in document REMPEC/WG.64/INF.3.

Agenda Item 8 **Follow-up actions and future work**

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

30 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 2028-2029, taking into account possible national initiatives or proposals, and on the establishment of any working groups and their terms of reference, as appropriate.

31 **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**

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

Agenda Item 10 **Conclusions and recommendations**

33 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.

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

Closure of the Meeting

35 The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson on Tuesday, 3 November 2026 at 1700 hours.

Annex

Draft timetable

Day 1 – Monday, 2 November 2026		
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Registration of participants</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the Meeting	
09:30 – 09:45	Agenda Item 7	Election of Chair for the period 2026-2027
09:45 – 10:00	Agenda Item 1	Adoption of the Agenda
10:00 – 10:30	Agenda Item 2	Progress Report on Activities Carried Out by MENELAS during the 2025-2027 biennium
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00 – 12:30	Agenda Item 3	Study on possible criteria and possible minimum levels of fines for each offence provided for under the Annexes to MARPOL
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Agenda Item 4	Guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:30 – 16:00	Agenda Item 4 (cont.)	Guidelines to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of the consolidated draft decision, as adjusted, in the Mediterranean region
16:30 – 17:30	Agenda Item 4 (cont)	Proposals for amendments to the text of the consolidated draft Decision, as adjusted

Day 2 – Tuesday, 3 November 2026		
09:00 – 10:00	Agenda Item 5	Common Marine Oil Pollution Detection/Investigation Report
10:00 – 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 – 12:30	Agenda Item 8	Follow-up actions and future work
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 – 16:30	Agenda Item 10 (cont.)	Conclusions and recommendations
16:30 – 17:00		Closure of the Meeting