



## **PRESS RELEASE** 22-11-22

### ***Synergies to address pollution in the Mediterranean: REMPEC hosts the first Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031)***

The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) is hosting the **First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031)**, in its premises in Malta between 29 November and 1 December 2022.

Gathering representatives from Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, as well as representatives from relevant regional and international organisations, this Meeting will mark the beginning of a new era of cooperation for the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031) by **defining the priority actions for the 2024-2025 and beyond**.

Addressing the current **environmental challenges at sea**, the Mediterranean Strategy is based on months of collective coordinated work to present an effective joint **Action Plan** and a **vision for the whole Mediterranean** “*A clean and healthy Mediterranean marine and coastal environment with a sustainable and pollution free maritime sector, supported by a rigorous enforcement system and strengthened multi-sectoral cooperation, for the benefit of present and future generations*”.

The Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031), at the heart of the meeting, aims to provide guidance to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at the horizon 2031, to cooperate on the prevention, preparedness and response to marine pollution from ships. It sets seven **Common Strategic Objectives (CSOs)** detailed below apply to the Mediterranean region as a whole, and Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, alongside the various organisations and institutions of the Mediterranean, each having a role to play in achieving these objectives. As a matter of fact, meeting these objectives required a **collective and coordinated effort**, which is in the centre of the discussions.



## **PRESS RELEASE** 22-11-22

This Meeting also aims to [report and assess the progress made in the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy \(2022-2031\)](#), to [define priority actions](#) and propose related activities for 2024-2025, to [define roles and responsibilities for the implementation](#) of the proposed activities and establish operational and strategic synergies, through specific partnership agreements.

This Meeting is the first of a series of five (5) meetings to be organised every two years over the next ten years. In 2027, The Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031) and its Action Plan will be [reviewed in 2027](#), based on an analysis of the progress of its implementation and on the outcome of discussions on emerging issues. This mid-term review and evaluation will be supported by a [Study on trends and outlook of marine pollution from ships in the Mediterranean](#) compiling knowledge about maritime traffic and its impact on the marine environment focusing on the seven CSOs. Such a Study will be compared to the study published in 2020 to support the elaboration of the Mediterranean Strategy (2022-2031).

### **PRESS CONTACT**

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## **PRESS RELEASE** 22-11-22

### FILE N.1 :

**CS01**

Prevent, prepare for, and respond to operational, illegal and accidental pollution from ships

**CS02**

Promote and support the development and implementation of innovative global solutions to mitigate and respond to climate change

**CS03**

Reduce and monitor air emissions from ships to a level that is not harmful to the maritime environment, or the health of the coastal population of the Mediterranean

**CS04**

Prevent and reduce plastic litter entering the marine environment from ships, in order to limit the environmental, health, and socio-economic impact of marine litter in the Mediterranean

**CS05**

Keep non-indigenous species introduced by shipping activity at levels that do not adversely alter ecosystem

**CS06**

Achieve a well-managed safe and pollution free Mediterranean, with integrated marine spatial planning and designation of special areas, where shipping activity has a limited impact upon the marine environment

**CS07**

CSO 7: Identify and understand collectively emerging issues related to pollution from ships in the Mediterranean, and define required actions to address issues identified

*Common Strategic Objectives (CSOs)*



**PRESS RELEASE** 22-11-22

FILE N.2 :



*MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY for the Prevention, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031)*



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FILE N.3 :



*MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY for the Prevention, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031) and the main priorities*



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FILE N.4 :



**FIRST COORDINATION MEETING ON THE  
MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF, PREPAREDNESS, AND  
RESPONSE TO MARINE POLLUTION FROM  
SHIPS (2022-2031)**

*29 November 2022 - 01 December 2022*



*Official Banner : Event : First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031)*



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### FILE N.5 :



*REMPEC premises where the event will be taking place*