



Manuals on National mechanisms for the mobilization of response equipment and experts in case of emergency

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Webinar - (MEDEXPOL 2020), 27 October 2020



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Background

- Article 6 of the OPRC Convention on the establishment by the Contacting Parties of a “A minimum level of pre-positioned oil spill combating equipment , commensurate with the risk involved , and programmes for its use”.
- Absence of definition of a minimum standard or an appropriate methodology to be used in determining equipment levels.
- The Manuals on national mechanisms for the mobilization of response equipment and experts in case of emergency is a tool to assist the CP to comply with the OPRC Convnetion requirement



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The Manuals on National mechanisms for the mobilisation of response equipment and experts case of emergency

Based on the **Template** prepared by the project partners Cedre, ISPRA, IYOP, REMPEC and SGMER , The Manuals provide:

- list and details on the equipment available within States' capabilities
- Procedures and forms of the those that can be provided :
 - individually in cooperation with the oil and shipping industries, port authorities and other relevant entities
 - in cooperation with neighboring countries
 - though Sub-regional arrangements and contingency plans
 - multilateral cooperation through REMPEC, EMSA, UCPM
 - provision of services of Private providers

Preliminary conclusions of the activity - 1

The development of the six National Manuals : Algeria, France, Italy, Malta, Spain and Tunisia revealed the following gaps and areas of improvements:

- **In relation with equipment**

.1 Absence or irregular update of regional database, i.e. Country Profile and MEDGIS-MAR, that affects the compliance by Contracting Parties with their reporting obligations under the Barcelona Convention Reporting System,

.2 Use of a **traditional form in word format** combine **with external support (consultant)** allowed countries to centralise the information and update the relevant reporting system referred above,

.3 The decentralise information on response equipment and expert and on mobilization procedures may affect the responsiveness of operation in case of emergency, when such means are required,

Preliminary conclusions of the activity 2

The development of the six National Manuals : Algeria, France, Italy, Malta, Spain and Tunisia revealed the following gaps and areas of improvements:

- **In terms of NCP**

- .4 Lack of transposition of the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol into national law,
- .5 Shortage of equipment for Shoreline Response,
- .6 Shortage in human resources to address OPRC/HNS matters and related reporting exercises, and
- .7 Absence or lack of linkage between operator's specific plans and National Contingency Plan.

Actions requested of the Meeting

.1 endorse **the template annexed to the document REMPEC/WG.47/5/2 with the following improvement:**

- resume the introductory paragraphs of the tables of part 1 and 2 of the template
- adapt the format of the tables to those used in MEDGIS-MAR and Country Profile data bases and revise the insertion of the links to these data bases in the template
- replace the indicative table of the response equipment annexed to the template, with a simple list of the response equipment and field of expertise

.2 **suggest that regular submission, every two years, of pre-filled country profile and equivalent forms**, could be beneficial to individual countries and the region to ensure compliance with reporting obligations and operationalization of the tools made available to the Contracting Parties,

.3 to propose recommendations on the use of the Manuals for further discussion at the 14th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC.

THANK YOU

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