

NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND SENIOR MANAGERS

Rabat, Morocco: 25 - 27 April, 2000

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

A national seminar for government administrators and senior managers on the strategic issues concerning preparedness and response to marine spills of oil and chemicals was held in Rabat, Morocco, between 25 - 27 April 2000. The seminar was organised by Peter Hayward Associates under the supervision of REMPEC and in co-operation with the Secrétariat d'Etat à l'Environnement, Morocco. Technical Co-operation Division (TCD) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) provided financial support for the seminar.

The national seminar was based on the Level 3 IMO OPRC model training course but with the addition of a session on the response to chemical spills. The duration of the seminar was three days. It was aimed at senior administrators within the Moroccan administration concerned with responsibilities under the draft national contingency plan, as well as senior managers in the oil sector and shipping/port industries. In the event, the majority of participants came from the Moroccan public sector, including the port authorities, but the oil industry was not well represented.

The seminar formed part of REMPEC's activities aimed at assisting the Moroccan authorities in developing their national capacity for dealing with accidental marine pollution. It was organized following a request made in 1999 by the competent Moroccan national authorities during the official visit to Morocco of Mr. Roberto Patrino, Director, REMPEC. It is intended that later in the year 2000 the Seminar will be followed by a national training course for On Scene Commanders and Supervisors.

The Seminar was organized by REMPEC in accordance with the Project PR 272, financed by the Technical Co-operation Division of IMO, with a view to increasing the level of preparedness for dealing with accidental marine pollution in Arab/Mediterranean States. REMPEC was designated as implementing agency for this Project. Furthermore, it was in conformity with the work plan of REMPEC activities for 2000-2001 period, as approved by the Eleventh Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, held in Malta, 27-30 October 1999.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SEMINAR

The Secretariat of State for the Environment, as the competent Moroccan national authority, was responsible for the selection and invitation of participants. The Moroccan administration's responsibilities also included making the necessary arrangements for the smooth running of the seminar, including *inter alia* the provision of a conference room and the necessary audio-visual equipment. The arrangements were excellently co-ordinated by Mr Mohamed Dahhou, officer responsible for the national contingency plan within the Secrétariat d'Etat à l'Environnement.

The seminar was held in the training school of the Moroccan Civil Protection organisation, who also graciously provided lunch and coffee breaks for all the participants.

REMPEC acted as the official point of contact with the national authorities and liaised with them on the dates and venue of the seminar and the identification of the appropriate participants. REMPEC also participated in the preparation of the seminar programme and provided two lecturers.

Peter Hayward, Senior Partner of Peter Hayward Associates, acted as Course Director and was in charge of the overall organisation of the national seminar including:

- Preparing the content of the national seminar, in close co-operation with and subject to the final approval of REMPEC.
- Identifying suitable trainers and, after approval by REMPEC, hiring and instructing external trainers.
- Arranging the travel and accommodation costs of external (ie non-REMPEC) trainers.
- Liaison with the Moroccan national authorities.
- Arranging for simultaneous interpretation into French at the seminar and making the sub-contracts with the interpreters.
- The provision of course manuals for each of the trainees.

The costs of the written materials, interpretation services and transportation within Morocco, as well as the costs of travel and DSA of the non-REMPEC lecturers, were borne by the Technical Co-operation Division of IMO and effected through the contract between REMPEC and Peter Hayward Associates. All costs related to this contract were made available by TCD under Project PR 272, budget code TC03RAB/98/208.

The seminar was conducted in both French and English with simultaneous translation being provided from English into French.

A total of 28 participants attended the national seminar. Organisations which sent representatives to the seminar included the department of Civil Protection, the Royal Moroccan Navy, the Royal Moroccan Air Force, the Office for the Exploitation of Ports (ODEP), the Ministry of Fisheries, the Department of Merchant Marine, the Ministry of Equipment, the Gendarmerie and the Secrétariat d'Etat à l'Environnement. The list of participants is given in **Annex 1**.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEMINAR

The objective of the seminar was to inform senior officials on the responsibilities of an oil spill response organisation and how to respond effectively to an accidental marine spill through the deployment of equipment and resources at the national level. Given the senior level of the intended participants, the seminar objective was to focus on issues of a strategic and policy nature, rather than simply the practical mechanics of oil spill response. A conscious effort has been made to discriminate between the content of the national seminar and the proposed training course for On Scene Commanders to be held later in the year 2000.

In order to achieve these objectives, Peter Hayward Associates prepared a seminar programme which included 11 lectures, all of which were illustrated by various visual aids (videos, overheads, PowerPoint presentations). A copy of the seminar programme is reproduced in **Annex 2**.

The final day of the seminar was devoted to a presentation of the national system for oil spill response in Morocco, made by Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmed Kamoun. This was followed by a lengthy and lively discussion of the issues for future action, in order to try and identify a future strategy/action list.

The lectures were given by a team of five lecturers. The manuals for the seminar participants contained copies of all the overheads and PowerPoint slides used in the lecturers' presentations, the majority being in French. In addition, REMPEC and the lecturers provided various technical manuals and publications for participants. A list of the documents distributed to the participants is at **Annex 3**.

Mr Ahmed Bouhaouli, Secretary General of the Secretariat of State for the Environment, closed the seminar at 1300 h on 27 April and, on behalf of the host country, thanked IMO, REMPEC and the lecturers for their support and for the organisation of the seminar.

At the end of the seminar, Mr Bouhaouli presented participants with numbered Certificates of Attendance which had been prepared by REMPEC. A copy of the Certificate is given in **Annex 4**.

CONCLUSIONS

The seminar was aimed at senior administrators in the Moroccan administration and senior managers in the ports and petroleum industries. To a large extent the participants were of the senior level expected, although there was a disappointing lack of representatives from the petroleum sector.

There was a high degree of active participation manifested, in particular, by the level of questions and interaction between lecturers and trainees. There was no formal evaluation of the seminar but it was made clear that the lectures and seminar proceedings were much appreciated by the Moroccan participants.

An important component of the seminar was the debate on future strategy, which was chaired jointly by Colonel Kamoun and the Course Director. This identified the following issues which should be addressed by the Moroccan authorities in the future:

1. There is a need to update the national contingency plan (NCP). A significant difference between the French and Moroccan systems is that Morocco does not have a Prefet Maritime with overall command of the at-sea response operations. It was suggested that both the French and American systems could be compared when revising overall command procedures within the Moroccan national contingency plan.
2. There is no policy on the use of dispersants, which needs to be defined and integrated in the NCP.
3. Sensitivity mapping was recognised as an important need for the future. A project has already been proposed by the Gendarmerie Royale. Any future work in this area should take into account work already carried out by certain Moroccan universities.
4. It was suggested that more use should be made of satellite remote sensing. This is already part of the national defence system and the military has the responsibility to propose its use for oil spill response (the Centre Royal de Télédétection Spatiale).

5. The importance of training was recognised. It was suggested that a course on "training the trainers" would be a logical follow-up to the two national courses being organised with the assistance of REMPEC and IMO's TCD.
6. An assessment needs to be made of the oil combating equipment still to be acquired following an inventory of the equipment already in hand. The Navy has five at-sea response units including a vessel with dispersant spraying equipment, recovery devices and temporary storage capabilities (not all systems are complete). The Office d'Exploitation des Ports (ODEP) is comprised of 18 ports which have acquired some equipment through the GEF project. The equipment is stockpiled in Mohammedia and Nador, with smaller stockpiles in some other ports.
7. There are plans to test the national contingency plan in June 2000. In addition, personnel in the ports have been trained in oil spill response through the GEF project and there are apparently monthly exercises where equipment is deployed.
8. An issue which has yet to be addressed is the disposal of oily wastes following a major oil pollution incident.
9. It was recognised that there is a need for regular meetings of the different groups participating in the NCP, eg the group responsible for financial, legal and public relations; the group responsible for logistics; etc.
10. A strategy on preparedness and response to marine chemical emergencies needs to be defined, including equipment needs, training and chemical expertise. A possible point of departure would be to start at the port level in a bottom-up approach focusing on those ports having the greatest risk of such events.
11. The benefits of Moroccan ratification of the 1992 Protocols to the CLC and Fund Conventions were underlined.
12. The importance of involving the petroleum industry in the development and execution of the national policy on oil spill prevention, preparedness and response was acknowledged; it was recognised that industry could make an important contribution to national capability.

ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<u>Certificate No.</u>	<u>Name of the participant</u>
1809	Hassan ERRADI
1810	Taoufik GHARAS
1811	Omar NAJI
1812	Mohamed ALKHIYARI
1813	Ahmed KAMOUN
1814	Lahbib BOUMRAH
1815	Mokhtar BACHOU
1816	El Fatmi EL BACHA
1817	Abdellah HADRAMI
1818	Bouchaïb MERZOUG
1819	Farida M'HAMDI
1820	Mohamed JABAL
1821	Mounia BELAMAMOUN
1822	Abdelaziz EL HIOUEL
1823	Hassan BARJ
1824	Med. BENHEKROUN
1825	Mohamed RAOUINDI
1826	Saïd BEL HAIBA
1827	Saïd BENBALLA
1828	Abdelghani BENNANI
1829	Med. EZZOUBAIDI
1830	Sannaa EL OUADI
1831	Ikram HASSANI
1832	Mohamed DAHHOU
1833	Hafid EL OUALJA
1834	Mohamed BOUGMA
1835	Hassan CHAOUI
1836	Mohamed BENCHEKROUN

ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME

Day 1

09.00 - 09.30	Registration
09.30 - 09.45	Opening Ceremony Introduction to the Seminar
09.45 - 10.20	Video (to be determined)
10.20 - 11.00	Causes, Fate and Effects of Spilled Oil
11.00 - 11.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.30 - 12.15	Oil Spill Response Strategies
12.15 - 13.00	Contingency Planning
13.00 - 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30 - 15.15	Spill Management: Roles and Responsibilities in HQ and in the Field
15.15 - 16.00	International Co-operation and the Legal Framework
16.00 - 16.20	Video (to be determined)

Day 2

09.00 - 09.45	Chemical spills - Key Features
09.45 - 10.30	Video(s) on chemical spills
10.30 - 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 - 11.45	Response to Chemical Spills
11.45 - 12.30	Spill Response Objectives/ Measurement and Control
12.30 - 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 - 14.45	Publicity and Relations with Media
14.45 - 15.00	Video (to be determined)
15.00 - 15.15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.15 - 16.00	Liability and Compensation
16.00 - 16.30	Termination of Clean-up: How clean is clean?

Day 3

- 09.00 - 10.00 Discussion: status of Contingency Planning and Oil Spill Response in Morocco (to be introduced by Moroccan competent authority).
- at national level
 - ports and harbours
 - terminals and the oil industry
- 10.00 - 10.30 Discussion: Development of Action List/Future Strategy
- legal framework: present status and future needs
 - risk assessment
 - sensitivity mapping
 - roles of competent authorities and industries
 - stockpiles of equipment: funding mechanism
 - oil spill combat strategy: policy on dispersant use
 - measures for chemical spills
 - international co-operation
- 10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee Break*
- 11.00 - 12.00 Continuation of discussion
- 12.00 - 12.15 Close of Seminar
Presentation of certificates
- 13.00 *Lunch*

ANNEX 3: LIST OF DOCUMENTS

IMO	Manual on Oil Pollution, Section II - Contingency Planning, London, 1995
IMO	Manual on Chemical Pollution, Section 1 - Problem Assessment ..., London, 1999
IMO	Convention OPRC - Convention Internationale de 1990 sur la préparation, la lutte et la coopération en matière de pollution par les hydrocarbures, London, 1991
IPIECA	Série des Rapports de l'IPIECA, Volume 2: Guide pour l'élaboration de plans d'urgence en cas de déversements d'hydrocarbures dans l'eau, , London, 1991
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No. 9: Contingency Planning for Oil Spills, London, 1985
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No. 10: Effects of Marine Oil Spills, London, 1985
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No. 11: Fate of Marine Oil Spills, London, 1986
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No. 12: Action - Oil Spill, London, 1986

ANNEX 4: CERTIFICATE



CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANEEN
POUR L'INTERVENTION D'URGENCE
CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE
(REMPEC)



CERTIFICAT

No.

il est certifié que

a participé au

**SEMINAIRE NATIONAL POUR LES
ADMINISTRATEURS ET LES
CADRES SUPERIEURS**

**Rabat, Maroc
25 - 27 avril 2000**

organisé dans le cadre du

PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE

avec le soutien financier de

**LA DIVISION DE LA COOPERATION TECHNIQUE,
ORGANISATION MARITIME INTERNATIONALE**

par le

**CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANEEN
POUR L'INTERVENTION D'URGENCE
CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE**

avec la collaboration du

**MINISTERE DE L'AMENAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE, DE
L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE L'URBANISME ET DE L'HABITAT**

Ahmed BOUHAOULI
Le Secrétaire Général

Roberto PATRUNO
Directeur, REMPEC