Webinar to enhance regional cooperation in responding to marine Oil and HNS pollution in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)	REMPEC/WG.47/INF.4 Date: 16 October 2020
27-28 October 2020	Original: English

Agenda Item 4

SYNTHESIS OF THE SURVEY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Note by REMPEC

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides a summary of the main outcomes of the Survey for the establishment of a Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean

Action to be taken: Paragraph 6

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.37/9, REMPEC/WG.37/16, REMPEC/WG.39/INF.3, REMPEC/WG.45/INF.6, REMPEC/WG.45/16, REMPEC/WG.47/4, REMPEC/WG.47/INF.3

Background

1.   In consideration of the Decision IG.23/11 related to the Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution Incidents, and in order to enhance coordination of requests and offers of international assistance, the 13th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) (Malta, June 2019) requested REMPEC to envisage the use of the Marine Pollution (MP) module of the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS), a web-based alert and notification application enabling real time exchange of information managed by the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) established in the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

2.   In this context, REMPEC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation (DG ECHO), organised, within the framework of the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation (West MOPoCo), a regional CECIS Marine Pollution workshop for the Mediterranean countries (Brussels, Belgium, 22-23 October 2019). This workshop provided knowledge on CECIS Marine Pollution interface and functionalities and facilitated the debate to discuss options to set up the Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean as well as to envisage the use of CECIS. The report of the workshop is presented in the document REMPEC/WG.47/INF.3.

3.   In accordance with the recommendation of the workshop reproduced in Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.47/INF.3, and with a view to exploring the most appropriate solution to set up a Common Emergency Communication System the whole Mediterranean region, REMPEC OPRC Focal Points and the members of the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG) were invited to complete the Survey, reproduced in **Annex I** to the present document.

4.   The outcome of the survey, which was communicated to REMPEC OPRC Focal Points and members of the MTWG, is reproduced in **Annex II** to the present document.

5.   It provides information on national and regional needs and requirements (legal, technical, administrative, logistical, and operational, etc.) and highlights the position of Mediterranean Coastal

States with regards to the integration of existing systems including CECIS MP, the EU vessel traffic monitoring and information system (SafeSeaNet), REMPEC's Emergency Communication Procedure as laid down in Decision IG.23/11, and related databases within CECIS MP and the Mediterranean Integrated Geographical Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response (MEDGIS-MAR).

Actions requested by the Meeting

6.   **The Meeting is invited to take note** of the information provided in the present document.

Annex I

Survey for the establishment of a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean

**<u>Survey for the establishment of a Common emergency communication system
for the Mediterranean</u>**

Background info on the emergency communication systems in the Mediterranean

*The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)
developed an <u>Emergency communication system</u> to enable the Mediterranean Coastal States and the
European Union (EU) to notify and exchange information on pollution incidents as well as to facilitate
the mutual assistance using the Standard forms of the Annex 2 'Emergency Procedure' of the
<u>Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution
Incidents</u>[1] (the Med Guide): the first two parts of the <u>POLREP</u>[2] **(POLWARN and POLINF)** for
reporting pollution incidents and the third part **of the POLREP (POLFAC)** and the **Standard forms**[3]
<u>for the request and offer of assistance</u>.*

*EU Mediterranean Member States use <u>SafeSeaNet</u> for notification and exchange of information on
pollution incidents using the standard first two parts of **POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF)** for
reporting pollution incidents**.** SafeSeaNet is also linked with the Common Emergency Communication
and Information System for Marine Pollution (<u>CECIS MP</u>) for the request and offer of assistance
(POLFAC).*

<u>What emergency communication system(s) / tool(s) do you use for the notification of incidents and
request and offer of assistance? Select as many as required.</u>

- REMPEC's Emergency communication system
- SafeSeaNet
- CECIS Marine Pollution
- Fax/telephone/email
- Please comment if required

<u>Specify which Form(s) you use for notification and exchange of information on pollution incidents:</u>

- POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF)
- Other Forms (please specify)
- None of the above

<u>Specify which Form(s) you use for the request and offer of assistance:</u>

- POLREP (POLFAC)
- Forms related to the request and offer of assistance.
- Form related to experts
- Form related to equipment
- Other Forms (please specify)
- None of the above

<u>Specify your experience during exercises or real incidents, when communicating with countries:</u>

- Issues encountered (e.g. communication issues, use of POLREP, use of request and offer of
  assistance Forms):

- Describe how you handled the situation (e.g. Canceled the communication, Used another
  means of communication to contact the other Party, Communicated through REMPEC or the
  Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), Other):

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[1] Adopted by Decision IG.23/11 of the twentieth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona
Convention and its Protocols (COP 20) (Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017

[2] Med Guide - Annex II. 1 and 2 of the Med Guide

[3] Med Guide - Annex II. 3 - standard form for request of expert - Annex II. 4 - standard form for request of
equipment and products - Annex II. 5 - standard form for offer of assistance - Annex: II. 6 - sample of receipt/
acknowledge form - Annex II. 7- sample of acceptance form - ANNEX II. 8 - sample of decline /on hold form

Needs and requirements for a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean

Noting that the [13th Focal Points Meeting of REMPEC (Floriana, Malta, 11-13 June 2019)](#) requested REMPEC to envisage the use of the CECIS MP as a regional emergency communication system, the issue was addressed within the West MOPoCo Project at [the Regional Workshop on CECIS MP for the Mediterranean countries (Brussels, Belgium, 22-23 October 2019).](#) All Contracting Parties were invited to the Workshop which introduced the CECIS MP and discussed obstacles, advantages, needs and requirements to enhance coordination of request and offer of international assistance. Among the recommendations, listed respectively in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the workshop report, REMPEC was invited to carry out 'the present' survey gathering further views on needs and requirements for a common system and to evaluate whether and to what extent CECIS MP can accommodate the findings. Analysis will be presented at the 14th Focal Points Meeting of REMPEC in 2021.

<u>**At regional level**, please specify any **needs and requirements** for a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean:</u>

- Operational (specify which functionalities are required and which ones are good to have, links and connections to other tools and databases, online completion of POLREP and the request and offer of assistance Forms, access to the electronic POLREP and request and offer of assistance Forms etc.):

- Technical and Administrative (consider management and maintenance of the System, financial aspects, technical support, updates, access, log-ins, user rights, etc.):

- Legal (data sharing, validity of electronic requests and offers within the System, endorsement and universal use of the System by all countries in the region, etc.):

- Other:

<u>**At national level**, please specify **needs and requirements** in relation to the set up of a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean:</u>

- Legal (consider the data protection, validity of electronic notification and requests and offers within the national system, etc.):

- Administrative: (identification of appropriate administrators and users within national competent authorities, log-ins, user rights, updates, contact persons, update procedure in national system of preparedness and response, etc):

- Technical and Operational: (interconnection to the national communication system, workflow management: drafting mode, approval, adaptation of communication means / infrastructure, remote access onsite and in command centre, etc.)

- Logistical: (adaptation of communication means, etc.):

- Other

<u>**Obstacles/advantages** (Legal, Technical, Administrative, Logistical, Operational, Data sharing, other, etc.) to setup a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean</u>

- Please identify

<u>Do you have any other issues to bring to the 14th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (Malta, May 2021) regarding the Common emergency communication system?</u>

- Please specify

Annex II

**Synthesis of the Survey for the establishment of a Common emergency communication
system for the Mediterranean**

Mediterranean Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation

Western Mediterranean Region
Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation Project

Synthesis of the Survey for the establishment of a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean

WP 3: Update of decision support tools	Version: 2
Action: The Mediterranean Emergency Reporting System (MedERSys) upgrade	Author: REMPEC
Last updated: 06/10/2020	Participants: 21 countries

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Synthesis of the Survey for the establishment of a common emergency communication system for the whole Mediterranean region

1. Introduction

In consideration of the Decision IG.23/11 related to the Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution Incidents, and in order to enhance coordination of requests and offers of international assistance, the 13th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) (Malta, June 2019) requested REMPEC to envisage the use of the Marine Pollution (MP) module of the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS), a web-based alert and notification application enabling real time exchange of information managed by the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) established in the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

In this context, REMPEC and the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operation (DG ECHO), organised, within the framework of the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation (West MOPoCo), the regional CECIS Marine Pollution workshop for the Mediterranean countries (Brussels, Belgium, 22-23 October 2019). The workshop provided knowledge on CECIS Marine Pollution interface and functionalities and facilitated the debate to discuss options to set up the Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean and as well as to envisage the use of CECIS.

In accordance with the recommendation of the workshop, and with a view to exploring the most appropriate solution to set up a Common Emergency Communication System for the for the whole Mediterranean region, REMPEC OPRC Focal Points and the members of the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG) were invited to complete the Survey reproduced in the present document.

The present document provides information on national and regional needs and requirements (legal, technical, administrative, logistical, and operational, etc.) and highlights the position of Mediterranean Coastal States with regards to the integration of existing systems including CECIS MP, the EU vessel traffic monitoring and information system (SafeSeaNet), REMPEC's Emergency Communication Procedure as laid down in Decision IG.23/11, and related databases within CECIS MP and the Mediterranean Integrated Geographical Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response (MEDGIS-MAR).

The Survey was composed of two sections reproduced below:
- Section 1 (Questions 1-6): Background info on Emergency communication systems in the Mediterranean
- Section 2 (Questions 7-17): Needs and requirements for a Common Emergency Communication System

2. Summary of the key findings:

Response rate:

Twelve (12) forms were returned out of the twenty-one (21) Mediterranean Coastal States, representing 57% response rate. It should be noted that EU Countries uses on a regular basis CECIS, while non-EU countries do not currently use the tool. The responses were submitted equally by 50% of non-EU countries and 50% of EU countries.

To maintain the agreed level of confidentiality, the present report does not refer to any specific country and refer to random country numbers

Section 1: Background info on the emergency communication system in the Mediterranean

> The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) developed an 'Emergency communication system' to enable the Mediterranean Coastal States to notify and exchange information on pollution incidents, using the first two parts of the POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF) as well as to facilitate the mutual assistance, using the third part of the POLREP (POLFAC) and the Standard forms of request and offer (R&O) of assistance of the Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution Incidents (Med Guide).
>
> EU Mediterranean Member States use SafeSeaNet (SSN) for notification and exchange of information on pollution incidents using the standard first two parts of POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF) for reporting pollution incidents. SSN is also linked with the Common Emergency Communication and Information System for Marine Pollution (CECIS MP) for the request and offer of assistance using the POLFAC.

✓ *Q2: What emergency communication system do you use for the notification of incidents and request and offer of assistance?*

  - REMPEC's Emergency communication system (REMPEC ECS)
  - SafeSeaNet (SSN)
  - CECIS Marine Pollution (CECIS MP)
  - Fax/telephone/email (T/F/e-mail)

➢ Q2 Responses: 12 out 12 responded to this question

Country Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
REMPEC's ECS		x	x	x	x				x	x		x	**7**	58
SafeSeaNet	x	x	x			x	x				x		**6**	50
CECIS Marine Pollution	x	x	x			x	x				x		**6**	50
Fax/telephone/email	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	**9**	75
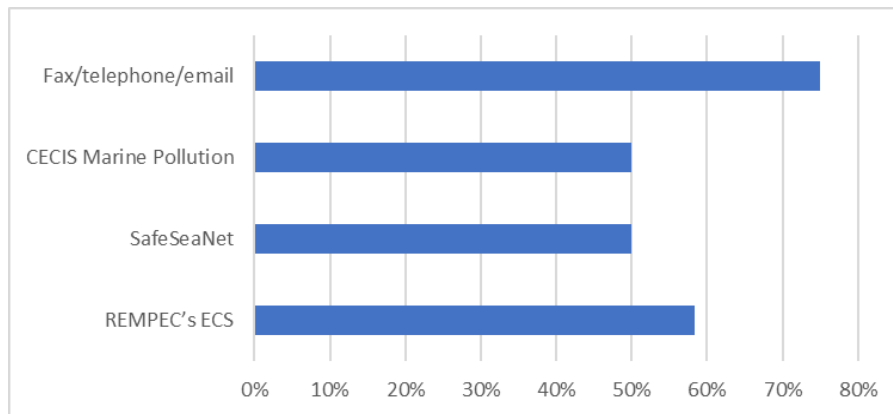
> Q2 Main outcomes:

- The system mostly used (75%) in combination of other systems is still the **Fax/telephone/email,** REMPEC's ECS comes second (58%) closely followed by SafeSeaNet and CECIS Marine Pollution, both used by 50% of countries
- From the 12 responses, only two representing (17%) confirm the use of only one system (REMPEC ECS or T/F/e-mail).
- The others ten representing (83%) use two or more communication systems:

    - Two (17%) respondents use the four systems
    - Four (33%) respondents use CECIS SSN and the T/F/e-mail
    - Four (33%) respondents use REMPEC ECS and T/F/e-mail

✓ *Q3: Which form(s) you use for notification and exchange of information on pollution incidents?*

    - POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF)
    - Other Forms (please specify)
    - None of the above

➢ Q3 Responses: 12 out 12 responded to this question

| Country Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
POLREP (POLWARN and POLINF)		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	**10**	**83**
Other Forms (please specify)	x												**1**	**8**
None of the above					x								**1**	**8**
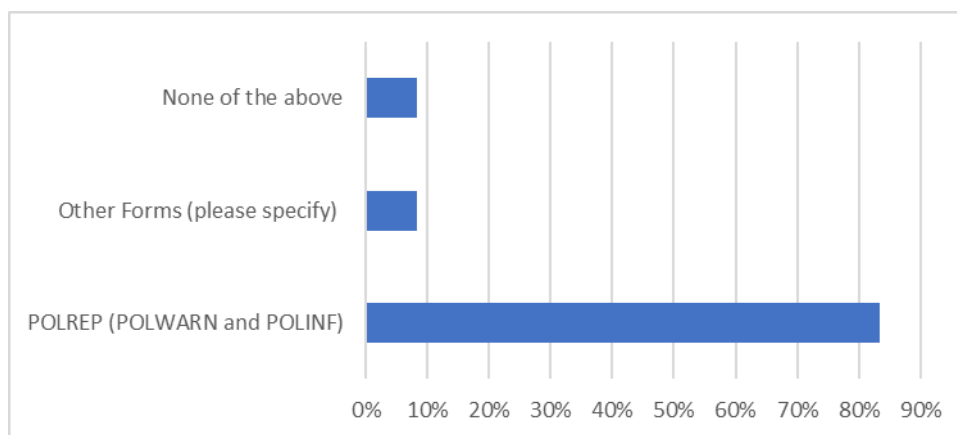
➢ Q3 Main outcome:

- 83% use the POLREP forms (POLWARN and POLINF).
- 1 out of 12 uses the EMSA SEG system and mail communication with EMSA

Q4: Which form(s) you use for the request and offer of assistance?

    - POLREP (POLFAC)
    - Forms related to the request and offer (R&O) of assistance
    - Form related to experts
    - Form related to equipment
    - Other Forms (please specify)
    - None of the above

➢ Q4 Responses:

| Country Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
POLREP (POLFAC)	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x		x	**9**	**75**
R&O of assistance Forms			x	x							x		**3**	**25**
Form related to experts	x												**1**	**8**
Form related to equipment	x												**1**	**8**
Other Forms:			x						x				**2**	**17**
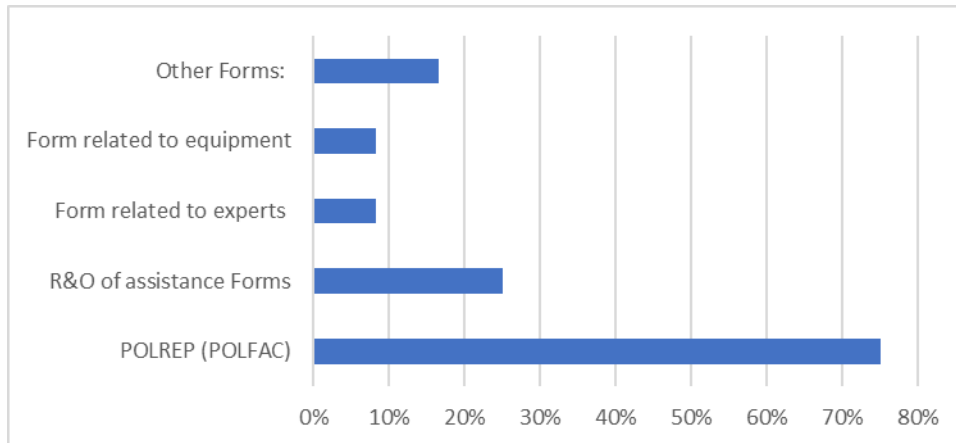
> ➢ Q4 Main outcome:
>
> - The majority (75%) use POLREP forms (POLWARN and POLINF) only or with other forms,
> - 58% use only POLREP forms
> - 25% use the R&O of assistance Forms only or with other forms,
> - 17% use only R&O of assistance Forms
> - 8% use the expert and equipment forms in combination with POLREP
> - 17% use other forms (one uses CECIS MP) and (two use Annexes of RAMOGE POL).

✓ *Q5: Experience during exercises or real incidents, when communicating with countries Issues encountered (e.g. communication issues, use of POLREP, Request and Offer of Assistance forms*

➢ Q5 Responses: 10 out 12 responded to this question

Country Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Issues encountered: communication issues		x						x		x		x	4	40
Issues encountered: use of POLREP	x												1	10
Issues encountered: request and offer of assistance Forms													0	0
No problems			x	x	x	x	x						5	50
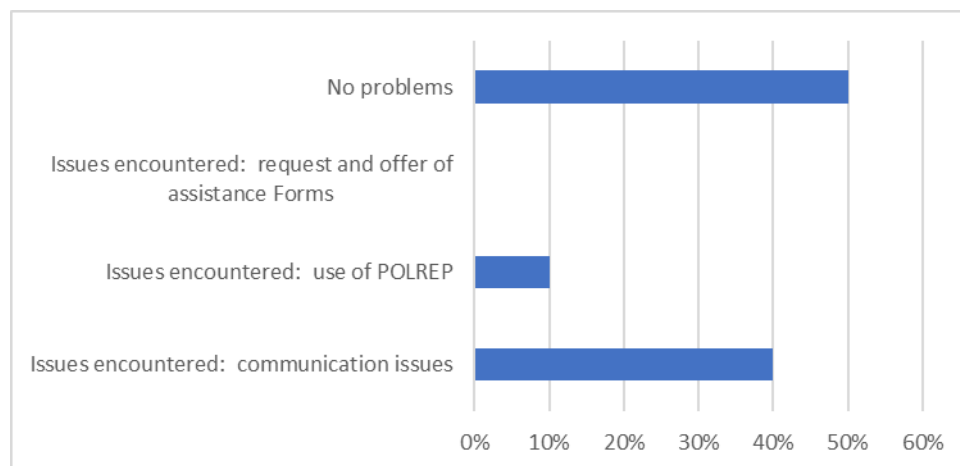
> ➢ Q5 Main outcome:

- 50% confirmed having no communication issues during exercises or real incident.

- 40% encountered communication issues
- 30% raised coordination issues
- 10% raised concerns on the use of POLREP
- Specific comments included:
    - *"The absence of the electronic forms; in order to communicate with other countries in cases of emergency, hard copies need to be used which have to be signed, stamped, scanned and then forwarded."*
    - *"The use of direct call to the competent authorities of other countries has not always delivered immediate response."*
    - *"Not yet encountered any situation or issues but in emergency cases countries can communicated through SAR Centre. "*
    - *"When issues arise ERCC / other countries are contacted directly by phone and/or email"*
    - *"The problem of tracking replies coming from different sources and different times "*

✓ *Q6: Experience during exercises or real incidents, when communicating with other countries.*

Describe how did you handled the situation: Cancelled the communication, use of other communication means, communication through REMPEC or ERCC, other

➢ Q6 Responses: 10 out of 12 responded to this question

Country Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Cancel communication													0	0
Handle situation through the phone, fax e-mail			x	x			x			x			4	40
Handle situation through REMPEC	x	x								x			3	30
Handle situation through ERCC/CECIS MP	x	x	x										3	30
No difficulties			x		x	x		x	x	x			6	60
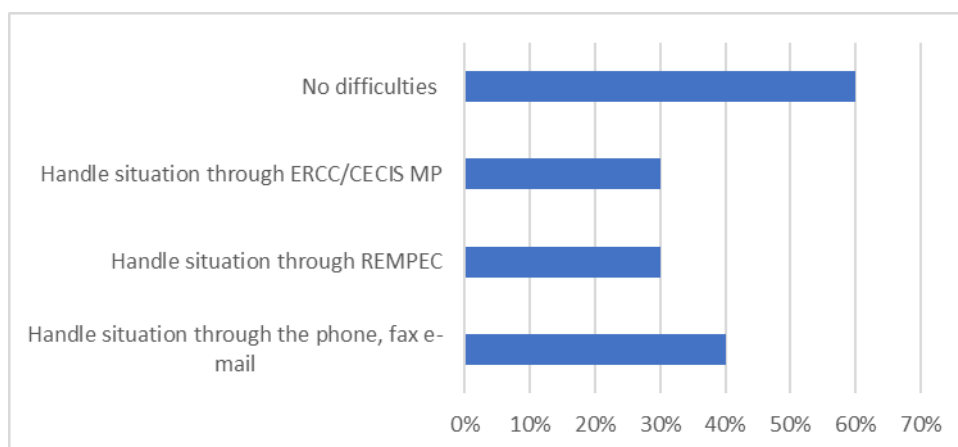
➢ Q6 Main outcome:

- 60% confirmed having not faced any issue when communicating with other countries.
- The situation is handled equally using CECIS/ERCC (30%) and REMPEC systems (30%)
- 40% use the phone and e-mail to ensure communication in addition to CECIS/ERCC and REMPEC systems.

- Specific comments included:
    - *"While countries did not reply to the request for assistance, we managed to use other means of contact. We contacted the OPRC contact point by telephone and managed to get in touch with the centre and start the communication. At the same time, we have requested REMPEC to get in contact with this country on our behalf using their emergency contacting list. After getting in contact it was realized that it was a problem*

> *with the country's internal system"*
>
> - *"When issues arise ERCC / other countries are contacted directly by phone and/or email"*

Section 2: Needs and requirements for a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean

> Noting that the 13th Focal Points Meeting of REMPEC (Floriana, Malta, 11-13 June 2019) requested REMPEC to envisage the use of the CECIS MP as a regional emergency communication system, the issue was addressed within the West MOPoCo Project at the Regional Workshop on CECIS MP for the Mediterranean countries (Brussels, Belgium, 22-23 October 2019). All Contracting Parties were invited to the Workshop which introduced the CECIS MP and discussed obstacles, advantages, needs and requirements to enhance coordination of request and offer of international assistance.
>
> Among the recommendations, listed respectively in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the workshop report, REMPEC was invited to carry out 'the present' survey gathering further views on needs and requirements for a common system and to evaluate whether and to what extent CECIS MP can accommodate the findings. Analysis will be presented at the 14th Focal Points Meeting of REMPEC in 2021.

✓ *Q 7 to Q 10: At regional level, please specify any needs and requirements for a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean (CECSM):*

✓ *Q7 OPERATIONAL NEEDS*
Specify which functionalities are required and which ones are good to have, links and connections to other tools and databases, online completion of POLREP and the request and offer of assistance Forms, access to the electronic POLREP and request and offer of assistance Forms etc.)

➢ Q7 Response 10 out of 12 responded to this question

| Country number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Required and needed functionalities		x		x						x		x	4	40
Links and connections to other tools and databases		x											1	10
Online completion of POLREP and R&O of assistance Forms	x	x	x										3	30
Access to the electronic POLREP and R&O A Forms		x	x										2	20
Way forward					x	x	x		x				4	40
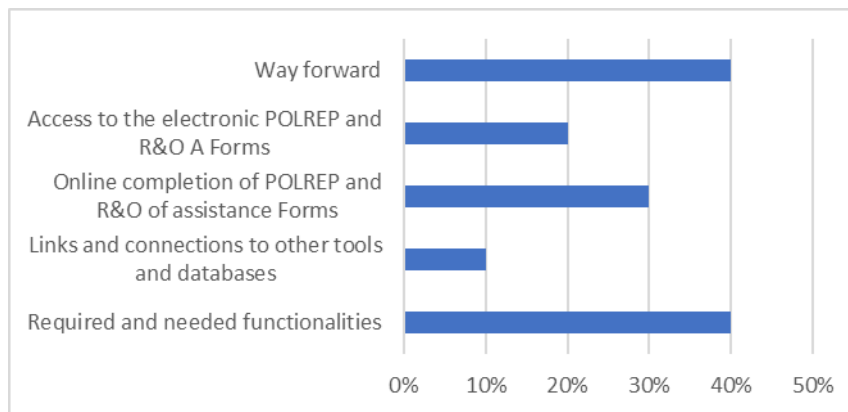
➢ Q7 Main outcome

- 50% confirmed the need for a CECSM
- 30% suggested to apply CECIS MP platform for the common system
- 30% insisted on the online completion of POLREP and R&O of assistance when handling a real accident
- 10% highlighted the need to enable a link to EMSA SEG interface.
- 30% highlighted the need to enable links and interaction with other tools and databases.

- Specific comments included:

  - *"It would be very useful to have the possibility to complete POLREP online. The good feature would be to enable link to EMSA SEG interface"*

  - *"Integrated system of databases including descriptive tools of vessels, tools and equipment, weather maps and national contact points, which need to be regularly updated. "*

  - *"During emergency situations, time is one of the most important issue to be considered. In order to save time and be very productive, countries should use effective tools to monitor the situation, request assistance in effective way and to be informed in real time about the situation"*

  - *"One respondent said that have not used any common communication system such as CESIS MP or related to any software therefore have no opinion about operational, technical, administrative and legal needs and requirements but expressed the are willing to discuss any supporting initiative from REMPEC in order to establish that system in their country."*

  - *"The CECIS MP platform meets all the needs and requirements for emergency communication and <u>can be fully applied to Common emergency communication system for Mediterranean</u>"*

  - *"Ideally we use CECIS MP as this has been offered by the European Commission to third countries. It is imperative that if a new system is developed this is compatible with CECIS/SSN to eliminate duplicate reporting for the same event"*

  - *"The CP, not being part of the European Union, has never used the CECIS system. In the event of pollution, […] contacts REMPEC and possibly initiate the RAMOGEPOL plan linking it to […] and […] being members of the European Union."*

  - *"One system should be created for all information transfer and request and offer of assistance, a system that also includes the transmission of messages regarding an oil*

> *spill event, because the EU Mediterranean Member States use SafeSeaNet to notification and exchange of information on pollution incidents and the outcome can be that non-European countries did not know about an incident in a neighbouring EU country until the request for assistance. Functionalities that are required: links to Stockpile databases and a platform for exchanging information about the equipment offered, for example the size of the deck required to operate the equipment, the type of vessel required, etc."*

✓ *Q8 TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE*
Consider management and maintenance of the System, financial aspects, technical support, updates, access, log-ins, user rights, etc.):

➢ Q8 Responses: 7 out of 12 responded to this question

Country number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Maintenance of the system: Timely update of the System	x								x				2	29
Easy access - Integrated in the standard operating procedures as other systems	x		x				x		x				4	57
System established in a feasible manner	x								x				2	29
Financial aspects Technical support – Training	x	x					x						3	43
log-ins, user rights: Define policy: Password protected, eligibility to access or share sensitive data		x	x				x						3	43
No needs				x	x								2	29
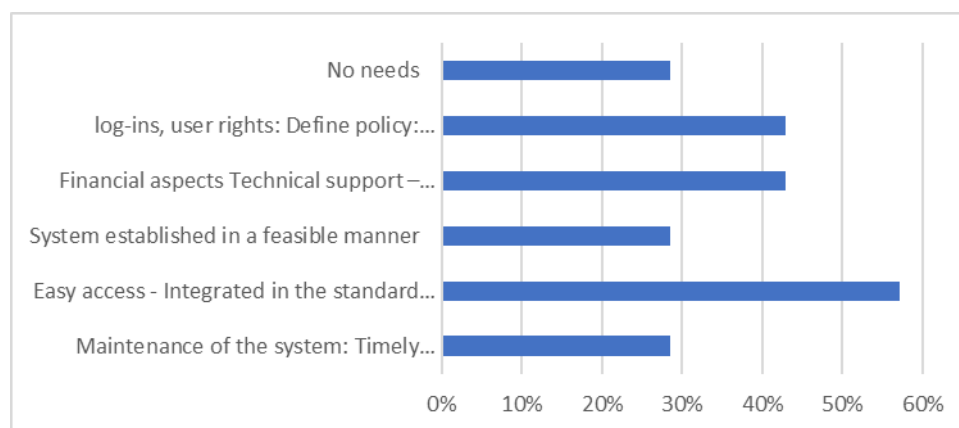
> ➢ Q8 Main outcome

• 86% addressed technical and administrative aspects such as the policy of accessibility to the data (24 h, password, sensitive data), the maintenance and easy use of the system, the technical and financial needs to ensure the adaptation of the staff and equipment.

• Specific comments included:

- *"The access to the system should not be complicated. The system should be established in a feasible manner and in a way that ensures the availability of financial and technical support of the Mediterranean countries."*

- *"Speed and efficiency of the resources that can be made available were also mentioned. Regular updates of administrators and end users as well as a well-defined policy of who is eligible to access or share sensitive data"*

- *"The CECSM should be accessible 24 hours a day and password protected."*

- *"Any new communication system will require the necessary management and financial support to keep it running. Furthermore, Mediterranean Coastal States would require the necessary technical support / training on the system. Any access requirements will be integrated in the standard operating procedures same as other systems"*

✓ *Q9 LEGAL*
   Data sharing, validity of electronic requests and offers within the System, endorsement, and universal use of the System by all countries in the region, etc.

➢ Q9 Response 7 out of 12 responded to this question

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
data sharing	x	x	x						x				4	57
validity of electronic requests and offers within the System,	x	x											2	29
endorsement and universal use of the System by all countries in the region,	x	x					X						3	43
No needs				x	x								2	29
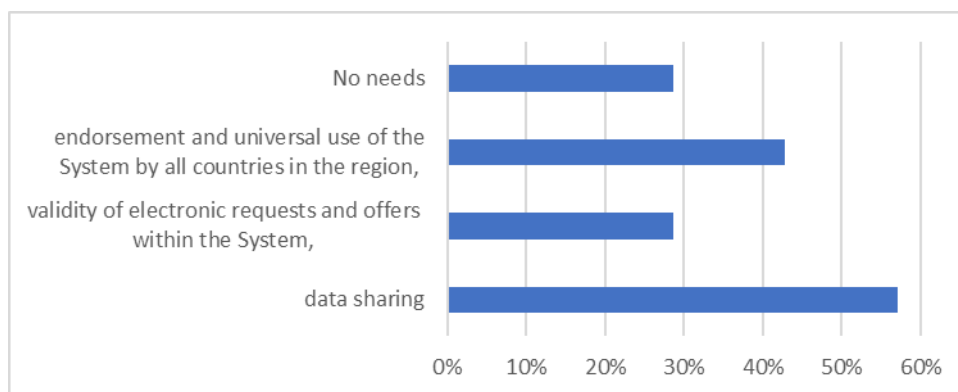
➢ Q9 Main outcome

• Legal needs and requirement in relation with the CECSM were expressed by 71% addressing in particular the need for an agreement from the countries on the electronic forms created for the system, and on the protection of the data in accordance with the laws in force.

• The answers are summarized as follows:

- *"The system should be reliable and ensure the sharing of relevant data among Mediterranean countries. Of course, the electronic requests and offers should be accepted through the forms created for the system and agreed by all countries."*

- *"Data sharing, validity of electronic requests and offers within the system, the use the system by authorised personnel"*

- *"Data sharing should be only for the users of the System and not accessible to the public. "*

- *"Any data transferred is to be in accordance with data protection laws in force"*

✓ *Q10 OTHERS*

➢ Q10 Responses: 7 responders out 12

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Agreement between participant states		x											1	14
Other							x						1	14
No needs													0	0
No opinion	X			x	x			x	X				5	71
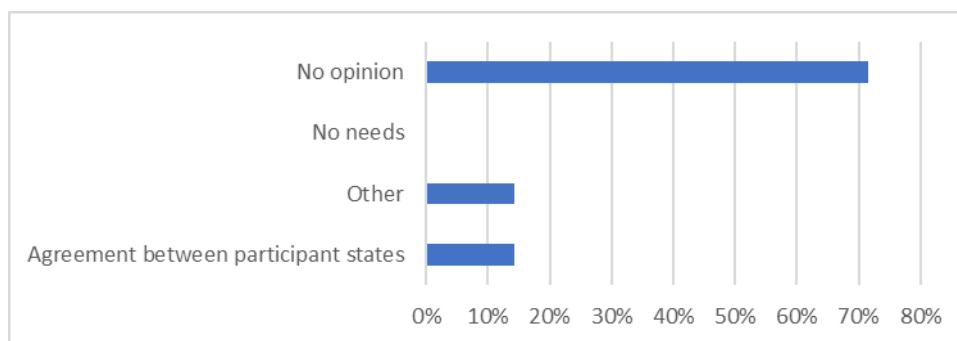
➢ Q10 Main outcome

• Comments and suggestions were expressed by two (28%) out of the 7 replies, in particular the adoption of a binding agreement on the CECSM and its compatibility with the CECIS/SSN in terms or reporting and exchange of information and the request and offer of assistance.

• Specific comments included:

- *" The need to legally enshrine and ratifying a binding agreement between participant states."*

- *" The CECSM is to be compatible with CECIS/SSN with the necessary links for any reports generated to be automatically transferred to eliminate duplicate reporting. Having to report on two different systems is a waste of time and resources and in an emergency time is of the essence"*

- *"In addition, according to the EU, it is important that the CECSM would not create additional reporting obligations or parallel communication systems for its Member States."*

✓ *Q 11-15: At national level, please specify needs and requirements in relation to the setup of a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean*

✓ Q11 LEGAL:
Consider the data protection, validity of electronic notification and requests and offers within the national system, etc.

➢ Q11 Response 11 out of 12 responded to this question.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Data protection	x	x	x				x	x		x		x	7	64
Accessibility: Authorized person	x		X										2	18
Validity of electronic requests and offers within the System,	x	x											2	18
No opinion					x				X				2	18

|	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Other				x		x							2	18
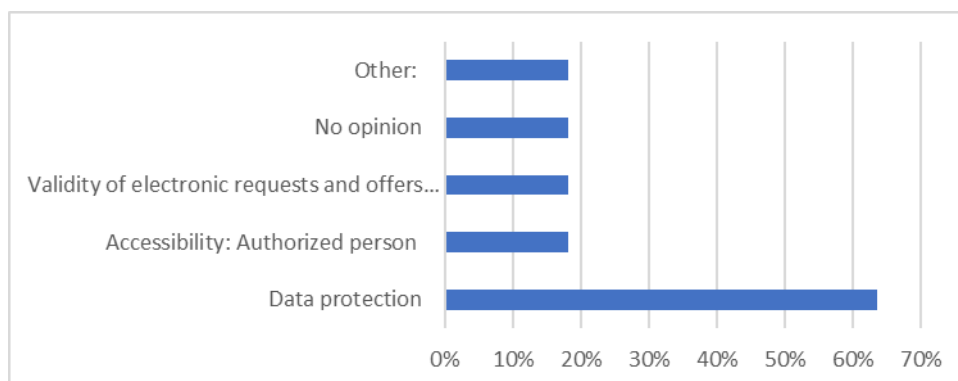
> ➢ Q11 Main outcome

- Comments and suggestions on the legal national requirements covered the data protection (64%), the accessibility (18%), and the validity of the electronic reporting forms (18%)
- 27% supported the CECSM, which would be integrated in their National Continency Plan
- Specific comments included:

    - *"The list of authorized persons should be circulated among the countries. Electronic notifications, requests and offers, in the form agreed by the countries and when submitted by the authorized persons, could be acceptable for our national system."*

    - *"Electronic notifications, requests and offers, in the form agreed by the countries and when submitted by the authorized persons, could be acceptable for our national system."*

    - *"procedures for validity of electronic notification and requests"*

    - *"if the system will be operable it will be foreseen in the Nation Contingency Plan."*

    - *"fully prepared to meet all the requirements (legal, administrative, technical, and logistical) necessary to join the CECSM platform."*

    - *"Any data transferred is to be in accordance with data protection laws in force"*

    - *"It is important to allow multiple user levels, so sending a request or an offer for assistance is possible only by entering a high level user password; It is important to enable to differentiate between the email that receives the first aid request (usually an ERCC) and the user for responding to the request."*

✓ *Q12 ADMINISTRATIVE:*
   Identification of appropriate administrators and users within national competent authorities, log-ins, user rights, updates, contact persons, update procedure in national system of preparedness and response, etc)

➢ Q12 Response 9 out of 12 responded to this question. The answers are summarized as follows:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
Identification appropriate administrators and users	x	x						x					3	33
User rights				x						x		x	3	33
Contact person													0	0
update procedure in	x	x								x		x	4	44

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
national system of preparedness and response														
log-ins													0	0
No requirements				x		x		x					3	33
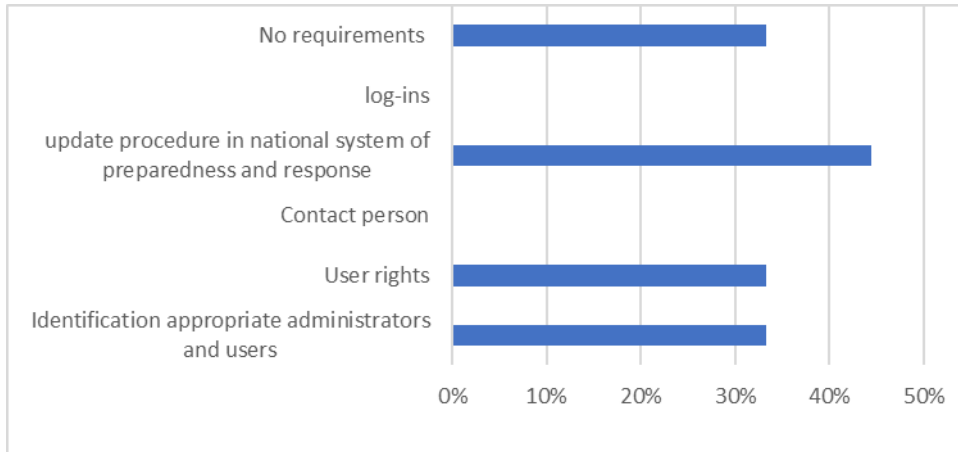
> ➢ Q12 Main outcome

• The identification and regular update of administrators and users access to the CESCM was raised by 33%, the user rights were the concern of 33% and the update of the national procedure in relation with the CECSM was underpinned by 22%.

• Specific comments included:

- *Need to identify the administrators and users within the national competent authorities. Procedures for regular updates including contact persons and update the national procedures*

- *For the administration and maintenance of the system, the national maritime operation centres dealing with operation at sea, such as operation centres, Coast Guard, Port harbourmasters can be used*

- *Do not foresee any administrative need and requirements as these are already in place at a national level through the CECIS MP*

- *It is important to allow multiple user levels, so sending a request or an offer for assistance is possible only by entering a high level user password; It is important to enable to differentiate between the email that receives the first aid request (usually an ERCC) and the user for responding to the request*

✓ *Q13 TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL:*
  Interconnection to the national communication system, workflow management: drafting mode, approval, adaptation of communication means / infrastructure, remote access onsite and in command centre, etc.)

➢ Q13 Response 7 out of 12 responded to this question.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Interconnection to the national communication system	x	x											2	29
workflow management: drafting mode, approval,		x											1	14
adaptation of	x	x						x					3	43

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total	%
communication means / infrastructure,														
remote access onsite and in command centre, etc.	x	x											2	29
Other				x		x							2	29
No opinion					x			x					2	29
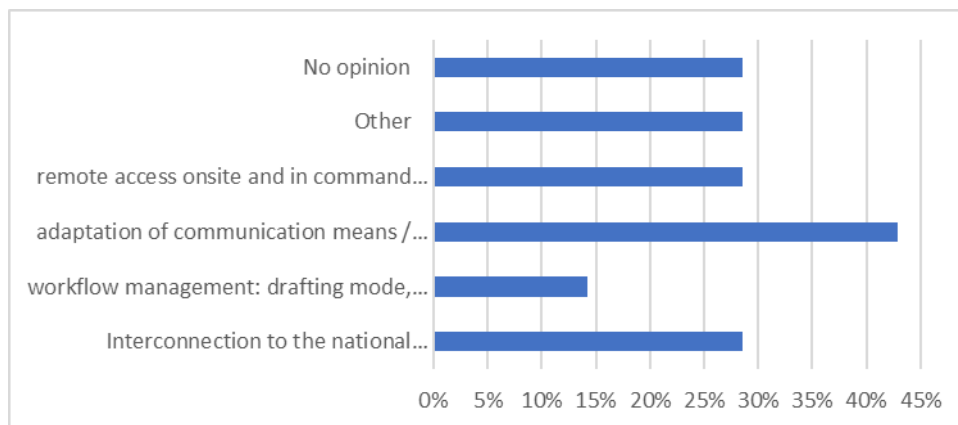
> Q13 Main outcome

• The major concern (43%) was related to the adaptation of communication means / infrastructure, followed equally by the Interconnection to the national communication system (29%) and the remote access onsite and in command centre (29%).

• The need for training of the operator was raised, while one response noted that there were no requirements if the system was web-based and similar to CECIS MP.

• Specific comments included:

   - *Technical issues would include the compatibility or the Interconnection to the national communication system, adaptation of communication means/infrastructure, remote access onsite and in command centre.*

   - *No needs for the moment except training of the operable staff*

   - *If the system is web-based and is similar to CECIS MP there should not be any special requirements.*

✓ *Q14 LOGISTICAL*
  Adaptation of communication means

> Q14 Response 5 out of 12 responded to this question.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
adaptation of communication means, etc	x	x		x			x						4	
No opinion					x								1	

> Q14 Main outcome

While only 41% responded to this question, the need for the adaptation of communication means was recognised by 80% of those who responded.

• Specific comments included:

> - *Setting up of the new system would require the adaptation of the communication means and possibly adding additional personnel.*
>
> - *At present, it might be difficult to specify specific needs. It will depend on the specified requirements needed to establish a smooth and harmonised communication among national administrators and users.*
>
> - *Monitoring room, Internet connection, Servers, computers, huge monitors, printers.*

✓ *Q15 OTHER:*
Specify any other need and requirement in relation to the set up the CECSM

➢ Q15 Response 4 out of 12 responded to this question.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Other needs and requirements		x		x			x				x		4	
Other													0	

➢ Q15 Main outcome

- Only 33% responded to this question, a one response
- Specific comments included:

  - *There is no need to set up a Common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean. If a pollution incident occurs within ''internal'' waters and always under the instruction of the competent national Maritime Authority, by selecting the field on CECIS "regional agreement'', Rempec will be informed and always aware of the pollution event.*

✓ Q16: Obstacles/Advantages
Legal, Technical, Administrative, Logistical, Operational, Data sharing, other, etc.) to setup a Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean region

➢ Q16 Response 8 out of 12 responded to this question.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Advantages								x	x				2	
Obstacles:	x	x	x				x				x		5	
Other					x								1	

➢ Q16 Main outcome

- 25% focused on the advantages the CECSM
- 63% the concern that the CECSM will maintain the duality of the communication systems unless this system is integrated into the current CECIS MP

- Specific comments included:
  - *The system we have is small and is under a single competent authority in the country which allows for easy changes in the procedures. There are no delays since the command, operations and communications are all under the same authority. In the case of introducing a new system we would have to add workload to our communications/operations personnel and ensure training in order to allow for flawless integration into the new system.*

- *The only foreseeable problems might be in sharing sensitive data which may require a political decision.*

- *A common language (for example English) should be used for better communication. B) EU countries will have two Communication Systems (CECIS and the Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean region)*

- *As highlighted in other answers and during the workshop, the CP does not foresee the use of another communication tool for the Mediterranean Sea when we can all use CECIS MP. Two systems for the same purpose will definitely pose difficulties for the EU Member States.*

- *A common emergency communication system for the Mediterranean is very useful for enabling rapid intervention in an emergency and facilitates coordination operations between stakeholders*

- *Avantage : rapidité et choix des moyens plus important*

- *N/A. It already exists on CECIS*

Q17: Any other issues to bring to the 14th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (Malta, 25-27 May 2021) regarding the Common Emergency Communication System:

➢ Q17 Response 4 out of 12 responded to this question and suggested the following:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	**Total**	**%**
Issues					x				X				2	50
No opinion				x			x						2	50

➢ Q17 Main outcome

- 50% addressed the need for capacity building and on the practical modality of the connections:

- The answers are summarized as follows:
    - *Establishment of the CECSM: Training and exercise about the system, adaptation of the system in national level in order to get wider usage.*

    - *Practical modality of connections.*