



Reference: GG/FL/ELC/MK

16 April 2020

Subject: **Call for Expressions of Interest to provide consultancy services for the implementation of the road map for a proposal for the possible designation of the Med SO<sub>x</sub> ECA**

The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)<sup>1</sup>, the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC) and the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL) are three of the components of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, mandated to support and coordinate relevant activities of the Mediterranean coastal States carried out within the framework of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols.

COP 21<sup>2</sup> adopted Decision IG.24/8 on the Road Map for a Proposal for the Possible Designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides Pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI, within the Framework of the Barcelona Convention, hereinafter referred to as the road map, which outlines the process and details the related activities.

According to the road map, some knowledge gathering based on existing knowledge and studies should be completed whilst further studies should be carried out.

To achieve this, REMPEC, Plan Bleu and MED POL, hereinafter referred to as the Lead Entities, are expected to lead the related activities to be overseen by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, which are grouped into the following **five** packages of work:

1. **Package 1:** Synopsis of the assessment and draft submission to the IMO (Lead Entity: REMPEC, in cooperation with MED POL and PB/RAC);
2. **Package 2:** Quantification of the impacts associated with deposition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and air toxics (Lead Entity: REMPEC, in cooperation with MED POL);
3. **Package 3:** Land-based emissions controls of SO<sub>x</sub> and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States (Lead Entity: MED POL, in cooperation with REMPEC);
4. **Package 4:** Additional economic impact evaluation (Lead Entity: Plan Bleu, in cooperation with REMPEC); and
5. **Package 5:** Additional fuel supply and technology analyses (Lead Entity: REMPEC).

The 5 packages of work are distinct in that they are different in nature and different in methodology requiring potentially different specialisms to undertake the work. Further information on Packages 1 to 5<sup>3</sup> may be found in Annexes I-VI to the present letter.

*cont. 2/..  
by e-mail only*

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<sup>1</sup> REMPEC is administered by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in cooperation with UNEP/MAP.

<sup>2</sup> The Twenty-first Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019).

<sup>3</sup> subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts.

With the purpose of carrying out these activities in a systematic and coordinated manner, the Lead Entities are issuing an open call for interested consultants/experts in undertaking related consultancy work.

To support the Lead Entities in carrying out their activities with respect to the implementation of the road map, interested consultants/experts are kindly invited to send their Expressions of Interest to take on one or more of the **five packages** of work, by providing the following information to [technical.proposal@rempec.org](mailto:technical.proposal@rempec.org), **not later than eleven (11) p.m. (Malta local time or UTC/GMT +2 hours) on Friday, 24 April 2020:**

- an updated Curriculum Vitae in English; and
- an Expression of Interest (including motivation).

The formal Terms of Reference for the five packages of work will be provided to all interested consultants/experts once validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, tentatively towards the end of April 2020 for Packages 1, 2, 3 and 5 and in May 2020 for Package 4, subject to the procurement procedures of the Lead Entities.

Kindly note that expressions of interest do not replace the required formal submission of tenders that will be considered in the formal procurement procedures afterwards. However, any expressions of interest provided will assist the Lead Entities accordingly.

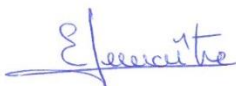
We look forward to receiving your early response prior to the above-mentioned deadline and to having the opportunity to cooperate with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



Gabino GONZALEZ  
Head of Office

REMPEC



Elen LEMAITRE-CURRI  
Director

Plan Bleu



Mohamad KAYYAL  
Programme Management Officer

MED POL

Enc.

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## Annex I – General background information for Packages 1 to 5<sup>1</sup>

COP 19<sup>2</sup> adopted Decision IG.22/4 on the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021), hereinafter referred to as the Regional Strategy (2016-2021), which addresses the issue of the prevention of air pollution from ships in Specific Objectives 1 and 15.

In particular, Specific Objective 15 of the Regional Strategy (2016-2021) established a technical committee of experts, which worked through correspondence, nominated by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, to carry out a technical and feasibility study to examine if it is appropriate, at the current stage, to put in place a road map for preparation of a submission to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to designate as a sulphur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) Emission Control Area (ECA) in certain areas of the Mediterranean Sea requiring specific environmental protection, and to explore possible further steps.

COP 20<sup>3</sup> agreed to include in the Programme of Work and Budget 2018-2019 of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP, an activity aimed at examining the possibility of designating the Mediterranean Sea, or parts thereof, as SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s), under Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and effectively implementing the existing energy efficiency measures.

In this context and, on the basis of the outcome of the work of the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, coordinated by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), including the Technical and Feasibility Study<sup>4</sup> and the initial draft submission to the IMO<sup>5</sup> prepared by REMPEC, COP 21<sup>6</sup> adopted Decision IG.24/8 on the Road Map for a Proposal for the Possible Designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides Pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI, within the Framework of the Barcelona Convention, hereinafter referred to as the road map, which outlines the process and details the related activities.

According to the road map, some knowledge gathering based on existing knowledge and studies<sup>7</sup> should be completed and further studies should be carried out with a view to developing a mutually agreed joint and coordinated proposal for the possible designation of the Mediterranean Emission Control Area (Med SO<sub>x</sub> ECA) in accordance with Appendix III (Criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas) to MARPOL Annex VI, and with the view of formally submitting it to the 78<sup>th</sup> Session of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 78) scheduled for 2022, as follows<sup>8</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup> All information set out in this annex is subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts.

<sup>2</sup> Nineteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016).

<sup>3</sup> Twentieth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017).

<sup>4</sup> entitled "Technical and feasibility study to examine the possibility of designating the Mediterranean Sea, or parts thereof, as SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) under MARPOL Annex VI", as set out in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.45/INF.9.

<sup>5</sup> entitled "Proposal to Designate the Mediterranean Sea area, [or parts thereof,] as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides [and Particulate Matter]", as set out in the Appendix to document REMPEC/WG.45/INF.10.

<sup>6</sup> Twenty-first Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019).

<sup>7</sup> These include, amongst others, the Technical and Feasibility Study, the study entitled "The potential for cost-effective air emission reductions from international shipping through designation of further Emission Control Areas in EU waters with focus on the Mediterranean Sea" prepared by the European Commission as well as the study entitled "ECAMED: a Technical Feasibility Study for the Implementation of an Emission Control Area (ECA) in the Mediterranean Sea" prepared by France, as set out respectively in the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.45/INF.11 and the Annex to document REMPEC/WG.45/INF.12.

<sup>8</sup> The associated package of work is identified and given in **bold**.

(a) Knowledge gathering:

- synopsis of the assessment (**Package 1**);
- quantification of the impacts associated with deposition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and air toxics (**Package 2**);
- additional detail of land-based emissions controls of SO<sub>x</sub> and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States (**Package 3**); and
- additional elements on the economic impacts on shipping engaged in international trade (**Package 4**).

(b) Further studies:

- additional economic impact evaluation, more precisely:
  - analyses of the impacts on shipping engaged in international trade as well as on trade modal shift outside the Mediterranean (**Package 4**); and
  - analyses of the impacts on short-sea shipping activity as well on the social and economic impact on Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention including on development for islands, insular and remote areas (**Package 4**).
- additional fuel supply and technology analyses (regional fuel production, fuel availability, and alternative compliance technologies) (**Package 5**).

COP 21 agreed to extend the mandate of the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, until 30 April 2021, to oversee the completion of the knowledge gathering and the preparations of further studies, notably socio-economic impacts on individual Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention *inter alia* as indicated in the road map, including the development of their respective terms of reference, through correspondence coordinated by REMPEC, when examining the possibility of designating the proposed Med SO<sub>x</sub> ECA.

COP 21 also requested the Secretariat to update the initial draft submission to the IMO for a proposal for the possible designation of the Med SO<sub>x</sub> ECA, under the guidance of the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts in line with the agreed road map.

To achieve this, REMPEC, the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL) and the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC), three UNEP/MAP components, are expected to lead the related activities that are grouped into the following five packages of work:

1. **Package 1:** Synopsis of the assessment and draft submission to the IMO;
2. **Package 2:** Quantification of the impacts associated with deposition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and air toxics;
3. **Package 3:** Land-based emissions controls of SO<sub>x</sub> and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States;
4. **Package 4:** Additional economic impact evaluation; and
5. **Package 5:** Additional fuel supply and technology analyses.

Each package of work is designed to ensure the completion of the necessary knowledge gathering or the carrying out of the necessary further studies, as specified above, and shall contribute collectively to the implementation of the road map in a complimentary manner.

## Annex II – Specific background information for Package 1<sup>1</sup>

**Package 1**, which will be led by REMPEC in cooperation with MED POL and PB/RAC under the guidance of the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, is envisaged of comprising knowledge gathering only, specifically to address the square brackets and the placeholders set out in the initial draft submission to the IMO, and is subject to the completion of the other packages of work (**Packages 2 to 5**) that are meant to provide the necessary input for the preparation of the synopsis of the assessment<sup>2</sup> and the finalisation of the draft submission to the IMO.

The finalised draft submission to the IMO, which will integrate the synopsis of the assessment, to be prepared by the Consultant under **Package 1**, will be reviewed and validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for its review and recommendations.

### Objectives

The principal objectives of the consultancy services will be to prepare the synopsis of the assessment as well as to finalise the draft submission to the IMO pursuant to the road map with a view to more fully addressing the criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas laid down in Appendix III to MARPOL Annex VI.

### Timeline

Package	Tasks	Deadlines
1	Draft synopsis of the assessment	18 September 2020
1	Updated initial draft submission to the IMO	
1	Revised draft submission to the IMO	16 October 2020
1	Finalised draft submission to the IMO	27 November 2020

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<sup>1</sup> All information set out in this annex is subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts. This includes, but is not limited to, the specific objectives, tasks and related deadlines, for which further information will be provided in the relevant Terms of Reference.

<sup>2</sup> This addresses the placeholder set out in Section 3.1 of the initial draft submission to the IMO.

### Annex III – Specific background information for Package 2<sup>1</sup>

**Package 2**, which will be led by REMPEC in cooperation with MED POL and overseen by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, through correspondence coordinated by REMPEC, is envisaged of comprising knowledge gathering only, specifically to quantify the impacts associated with deposition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and air toxics<sup>2</sup>, and is meant to provide the necessary input for the preparation of the synopsis of the assessment and the finalisation of the draft submission to the IMO under **Package 1**.

The finalised draft submission to the IMO, which will take into consideration the outcome of the work carried out on the knowledge gathering under **Package 2** in accordance with the road map, will be reviewed and validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for its review and recommendations.

#### Objectives

The principal objectives of the consultancy services will be to complete the knowledge gathering related to the quantification of the impacts associated with deposition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and air toxics pursuant to the road map with a view to more fully addressing the criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas laid down in Appendix III to MARPOL Annex VI.

#### Timeline

<b>Package</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>
2	Draft knowledge gathering report	18 September 2020
2	Final draft knowledge gathering report	13 November 2020

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<sup>1</sup> All information set out in this annex is subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts. This includes, but is not limited to, the specific objectives, tasks and related deadlines, for which further information will be provided in the relevant Terms of Reference.

<sup>2</sup> This addresses the placeholder set out in Section 5.3 of the initial draft submission to the IMO.

## Annex IV – Specific background information for Package 3<sup>1</sup>

**Package 3**, which will be led by MED POL in cooperation with REMPEC and overseen by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, through correspondence coordinated by REMPEC, is envisaged of comprising knowledge gathering only, specifically to provide additional details on land-based emissions controls of SO<sub>x</sub> and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States<sup>2</sup>, and is meant to provide the necessary input for the finalisation of the draft submission to the IMO under **Package 1**.

The finalised draft submission to the IMO, which will take into consideration the outcome of the work carried out on the knowledge gathering under **Package 3** in accordance with the road map, will be reviewed and validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for its review and recommendations.

### Objectives

The principal objectives of the consultancy services will be to complete the knowledge gathering related to land-based emissions controls of SO<sub>x</sub> and PM in the Mediterranean coastal States pursuant to the road map with a view to more fully addressing the criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas laid down in Appendix III to MARPOL Annex VI.

### Timeline

Package	Tasks	Deadlines
3	Draft knowledge gathering report	18 September 2020
3	Final draft knowledge gathering report	13 November 2020

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<sup>1</sup> All information set out in this annex is subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts. This includes, but is not limited to, the specific objectives, tasks and related deadlines, for which further information will be provided in the relevant Terms of Reference.

<sup>2</sup> This addresses the placeholders set out in Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the initial draft submission to the IMO.

## Annex V – Specific background information for Package 4<sup>1</sup>

**Package 4**, which will be led by PB/RAC in cooperation with REMPEC and overseen by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, through correspondence coordinated by REMPEC, is envisaged of comprising knowledge gathering and further studies, specifically to provide additional elements on the economic impacts on shipping engaged in international trade<sup>2</sup> and to make additional economic impact evaluation (more precisely: analyses of the impacts on shipping engaged in international trade as well as on trade modal shift outside the Mediterranean; and analyses of the impacts on short-sea shipping activity as well on the social and economic impact on Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention including on development for islands, insular and remote areas), and is meant to provide the necessary input for the finalisation of the draft submission to the IMO under **Package 1**.

The analyses referred to above shall be conducted separately:

- at the level of the Mediterranean region, as a whole. Whenever practicable, the analyses shall differentiate impacts on countries or groups of countries with different specificities (i.e. but not limited to: (i) countries having ratified MARPOL Annex VI versus countries not having ratified it; (ii) countries that are Member States of the European Union versus countries that are not EU Member States; and (iii) countries with significant insularities and/or remote areas); and
- at the national level. Where practicable and, provided that the necessary external financial resources are mobilised in time by the Secretariat, the analyses shall be carried out for at least one pilot country in each of the following categories:
  - countries not having ratified MARPOL Annex VI;
  - countries having ratified MARPOL Annex VI, which are not EU Member States; and
  - countries having ratified MARPOL Annex VI, which are EU Member States, with specific difficulties (e.g. domestic ferries, short distance lines, etc.).

The analyses referred to above shall address separately the specific issues linked to:

- international trade;
- short-sea shipping; and
- maritime transport to insular and/or remote areas in the Mediterranean and the socio-economic development of these areas.

The results of the analyses referred to above shall be accompanied by a sensitivity analysis to the global oil barrel price, as an integral part of the knowledge gathering and the further studies. This will allow for future updating of the results of the said studies.

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<sup>2</sup> This addresses the placeholder set out in Section 9.6 of the initial draft submission to the IMO.



The finalised draft submission to the IMO, which will take into consideration the outcome of the work carried out on the knowledge gathering and the further studies under **Package 4** in accordance with the road map, will be reviewed and validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for its review and recommendations.

### Objectives

The principal objectives of the consultancy services will be to complete the knowledge gathering and to carry out the further studies related to the additional economic impact evaluation pursuant to the road map with a view to more fully addressing the criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas laid down in Appendix III to MARPOL Annex VI.

### Timeline

<b>Package</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>
4	Draft knowledge gathering report	18 September 2020
4	Draft further studies	
4	Final draft knowledge gathering report	13 November 2020
4	Final draft further studies	

## **Annex VI – Specific background information for Package 5<sup>1</sup>**

**Package 5**, which will be led by REMPEC and overseen by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts, through correspondence coordinated by REMPEC, is envisaged of comprising a further study, specifically to make additional fuel supply and technology analyses (regional fuel production, fuel availability, and alternative compliance technologies), and is meant to provide the necessary input for the finalisation of the draft submission to the IMO under **Package 1**.

The finalised draft submission to the IMO, which will take into consideration the outcome of the work carried out on the further study under **Package 5** in accordance with the road map, will be reviewed and validated by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts before submission to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, to be tentatively held in Malta from 25 to 27 May 2021, for its review and recommendations.

### Objectives

The principal objectives of the consultancy services will be to carry out the further study related to fuel supply and technology pursuant to the road map with a view to more fully addressing the criteria and procedures for designation of emission control areas laid down in Appendix III to MARPOL Annex VI.

### Timeline

<b>Package</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>
5	Draft further study	18 September 2020
5	Final draft further study	13 November 2020

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<sup>1</sup> All information set out in this annex is subject to validation of the related Terms of Reference by the SO<sub>x</sub> ECA(s) Technical Committee of Experts. This includes, but is not limited to, the specific objectives, tasks and related deadlines, for which further information will be provided in the relevant Terms of Reference.