



REMPEC

REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANÉEN POUR L'INTERVENTION D'URGENCE CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE

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Third Meeting of National Legal and
Technical Experts on the amendments
to the Emergency Protocol to the
Barcelona Convention

REMPEC/WG.20/4/2
UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.197
31 December 2001

Malta, 20-22 January 2002

Original: English

Agenda Item 4

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

The Third Meeting of National Legal and Technical Experts on the amendments to the Emergency Protocol to the Barcelona Convention has been convened in Malta from 20 to 22 January 2002, pursuant to a conclusion of the Meeting of MAP Focal Points held in Athens in September 2001, as approved by the Twelfth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention held in Monaco 14-17 November 2001.

The Meeting has been convened in Malta in accordance with the kind offer of the Maltese Government to host the event.

All MAP and REMPEC official Focal Points have been invited to participate in the Meeting.

The following annotations to the proposed agenda for the Meeting were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: *Opening of the meeting.*

The Meeting will be opened at 09.30 hours on Sunday, 20 January 2002, at *Le Méridien Phoenicia Hotel*, The Mall, Floriana, Malta. The Minister for the Environment of the Republic of Malta, Dr. Francis Zammit Dimech, the Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan, Mr. Lucien Chabason and the representative of the International Maritime Organization will address the Meeting.

Agenda item 2: *Rules of procedure.*

The Rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6/Annex XI).

Agenda item 3: *Election of officers*

In accordance with Rule 20 of the Rules of procedure, the Meeting shall elect from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties, a Chairman, one Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur.

Agenda item 4: *Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and organisation of work*

The provisional agenda, contained in document REMPEC/WG.20/4/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting, as well as the timetable proposed in document REMPEC/WG.20/4/3.

Simultaneous English-French interpretation will be available for all sessions.

Agenda item 5: *Discussion of the final draft Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Hazardous and Noxious Substances.*

The Secretariat will inform the Meeting of the progress and results of the revision process of the Emergency Protocol, and in particular of those achieved since the Second Meeting of National and Technical Experts on the amendments to the Emergency Protocol, held in Monaco in April 2001.

The MAP Co-ordinator will introduce document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.197/1 containing a preliminary note concerning the progress of the revision process, the final draft of the new Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Hazardous and Noxious Substances that should replace the 1976 Emergency Protocol to the Barcelona Convention, and the proposals received from the Turkish Government and from the European Commission.

The draft Protocol appearing in Annex I to the document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.197/1 was discussed and approved by the Second Meeting of National Legal and Technical Experts held in Monaco 2-6 April 2001. The Secretariat proposes that this text be used as the basis for the discussion during the Third Meeting, together with the final proposal of the EC and the proposal submitted by Turkey, which appear in Annexes II and III respectively to the document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.197/1.

The Meeting will be invited:

- a) to discuss the final draft of the new Emergency Protocol as proposed by the Secretariat, taking also into consideration final comments received from the Contracting Parties; and
- b) to agree upon the final version of the new Protocol, to be submitted for adoption to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, that has been convened in Malta from 24 to 25 January 2002.

Agenda item 6: *Other business.*

Other subjects relevant to the revision process of the Emergency Protocol that might be brought to the attention of the Meeting by the participants or by the Secretariat will be discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 7: *Adoption of the report of the Meeting.*

A draft report of the Meeting will be submitted to the participants for adoption.

Agenda item 8: *Closure of the Meeting.*

The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairman at 17.30 on Tuesday, 22 January 2002.