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Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the
Coastal States of the Mediterranean
Region on the Protection of the
Mediterranean Sea (convened by UNEP)
Barcelona, 2 to 13 February 1976
Item 12 of the provisional agenda

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL OIL-COMBATING CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Corrigendum

1. The last sentence of paragraph 23 should read:

"The Mediterranean and the Black Sea constitute one of the sixteen geographical sub-units of the system, and contacts between the centre and the regional co-ordinating units, which Spain and Turkey have offered to host, would provide a useful additional source of information on oil pollution emergencies."

2. The last sentence of paragraph 30 should read:

"An allowance of US\$40,000 per annum has been made under 'Training' in the budget proposal ..."

The remainder of the sentence is unchanged.

3. Paragraph 44 should read:

"The estimated cost for developing and operating the regional oil-combating centre in Malta over a five year period is US\$1,742,000. The Government of Malta has offered to provide rent-free accommodations for a value of US\$245,000 which leaves a sum of US\$1,497,000 that needs to be provided through external contributions."

4. In Annex I, Telecommunications Facilities of Malta, under the listing for existing and proposed telephone facilities, "submarine coastal cable system" should read "submarine coaxial cable system".

5. In Annex I, Telecommunications Facilities of Malta, under the listing for existing aeronautical facilities, the YHF range should read 150/200 miles.
6. In the proposed budget covering external contributions, Annex II, the project personnel costs and grand total should be replaced by the attached page.

ANNEX II
PROPOSED BUDGET COVERING EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTIONS
(in US Dollars)

	TOTAL		1976		1977		1978		1979		1980	
	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$
<u>International</u>												
Director (D.1)	52	199,500	4	20,500	12	42,000	12	45,000	12	44,000	12	48,000
Technical Expert (P.5)	48	159,000	-	-	12	41,000	12	37,000	12	41,000	12	40,000
Information Officer (P.4)	48	140,500	-	-	12	38,000	12	32,000	12	36,000	12	34,500
<u>Local</u>												
Technical Assistant (P.3)	46	93,000	-	-	10	19,000	12	23,000	12	24,000	12	27,000
Training Officer (P.3)	46	93,000	-	-	10	19,000	12	23,000	12	24,000	12	27,000
Assistant Information Officer (P.2)	46	75,000	-	-	10	15,000	12	19,000	12	20,000	12	21,000
Administration Clerk (P.2)	52	82,500	4	4,500	12	18,000	12	19,000	12	20,000	12	21,000
Draughtsman (G.6)	45	22,000	-	-	9	4,000	12	5,500	12	6,000	12	6,500
Bilingual Secretary (G.5)	52	24,500	4	1,500	12	5,000	12	5,500	12	6,000	12	6,500
Secretary (G.4)	48	21,000	-	-	12	4,500	12	5,000	12	5,500	12	6,000
Typist/Telex Operator (G.3)	138	48,000	-	-	30	9,000	36	12,000	36	13,000	36	14,000
Driver (G.2)	52	18,500	4	1,500	12	3,500	12	4,000	12	4,500	12	5,000
Caretaker (G.2)	52	18,500	4	1,500	12	3,500	12	4,000	12	4,500	12	5,000
COMPONENT TOTAL	725	995,000	20	29,500	165	221,500	180	234,000	190	248,500	180	261,500
			-	unchanged	-	-						
GRAND TOTAL		1,497,000		47,500		342,500		355,000		369,500		382,500

NOTE: m/m man months

In recruiting international staff two factors account for the uneven annual increments.
(1) Installation costs in the year of recruitment and (2) home leave every two years
(travel for entire family, baggage etc.).



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PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL OIL-COMBATING CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Report by the
Executive Director

Prepared in co-operation with
The Inter-Governmental
Maritime Consultative Organization

INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Meeting on the Protection of the Mediterranean, held in Barcelona from 28 January to 4 February 1975, recommended in section IV (a) of the Action Plan 1/ that the Executive Director of UNEP should have "early consultations with the Governments of the region on the possibility of establishing a regional oil-combating centre to deal with the ever-present and growing threat of a major oil spillage in the Mediterranean" and took note of the offer of the Government of Malta to host such a centre. In accordance with this recommendation, and at the invitation of the Government of Malta, an Intergovernmental Consultation of Experts on a Regional Oil-Combating Centre was convened by the Executive Director in Malta from 15 to 19 September 1975. The report of the consultation is available for information. 2/ The experts invited to attend the consultation recommended that the proposal to establish a regional oil-combating centre should be submitted to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries scheduled in Barcelona in February 1976, and suggested that the Executive Director should prepare a report setting forth his recommendations based on the results of this Consultation.

2. This report is intended to help the Conference to reach a decision on the establishment of the proposed regional centre. Section I sets out the objectives and functions which the experts agreed would be appropriate for such a centre. Section II gives particulars of the communication needs of the centre. Section III of the report contains an estimate of the costs of operating the centre. Section IV contains the Executive Director's recommendations regarding the sources of funds for the centre and particulars of the contributions which would be provided by the Government of the country offering to act as host to the centre. The Executive Director's final recommendations are given in Section V.

I. OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

3. After detailed discussions, the consultation agreed that a regional centre for dealing with oil spillages in the Mediterranean (hereinafter referred to as "regional oil-combating centre"), and possibly also supporting subregional centres, should be established by a co-operative effort of the Mediterranean States and should have the objectives and functions outlined below.

Objectives

- A. To strengthen the capacities of the coastal States of the Mediterranean region and to facilitate co-operation among them in order to combat massive pollution by oil, especially in cases of emergencies in which there is grave and imminent danger to the marine environment.

1/ UNEP/WG.2/5, annex

2/ UNEP/CONF.1/INF.1

- B. To assist coastal States of the Mediterranean region which so request in the development of their national capabilities to combat oil pollution and to facilitate information exchange, technological co-operation and training.
- C. A further objective, namely the possibility of initiating operations to combat oil pollution at the regional level, can be considered. The possibility should be submitted to governments for approval after the results achieved in the fulfilment of the previous two objectives have been evaluated and in the light of financial resources which could be made available for this purpose.

4. The experts agreed that for the time being the scope of the centre's activities should be confined to assisting the Mediterranean States in combating accidental massive oil spillage and accumulated oil pollution which present a grave and imminent danger to the marine environment. In this way the objectives and functions of the centre would be harmonized with the provisions of the draft Protocol on Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency. ^{3/} It was also recommended that one of the centre's priority tasks should be to reinforce the national capabilities of the coastal States to combat massive oil spillages. This task should be carried out through a system of information exchange, technological co-operation, and training. Another of the centre's tasks should be to act as a focal point for oil-spill-combating activities in the Mediterranean and at the request of the States concerned, to co-ordinate their oil-combating operations. In the first years of its existence, the centre would not be equipped with an independent capability to combat oil spills; however, the possibility of expanding the centre's functions to include its own operational capacity to combat massive oil spills should be reviewed by the participating governments at a later stage. At that juncture, the governments should consider the results achieved by the centre in the context of its initial objectives as well as the financial resources available for expanding its operational competence. In order to realize the objectives mentioned above the centre should perform the functions outlined below.

Functions

- 5. A. To collect and disseminate information concerning:
 - (i) inventories of experts and equipment available in each coastal State for combating massive accidental spillages of oil;
 - (ii) plans, methods and techniques used for combating oil pollution in order to assist, as far as necessary, countries of the region in the preparation of their national contingency plans;

^{3/} UNEP/CONF.1/5

- (iii) those areas in the Mediterranean which are especially vulnerable to oil pollution and, with reference to these areas, specific clean-up methods which can be used with minimum environmental damage in such areas.

6. The information to be collected and disseminated in the performance of function A will provide an essential foundation for the preparation of the emergency plans to be carried out as part of function B. The information will also be an important input into the centre's link with the International Referral System for Sources of Environmental Information (IRS) of UNEP (function E). It is important that the information about the experts and equipment available in each coastal State should specify whether such experts and facilities can be used to assist other States in combating oil pollution and indicate the conditions under which this assistance would be extended.

7. In the identification of areas which are especially vulnerable to oil pollution, attention should be given to the recommendations of a regional meeting on Marine Parks and Wetlands in the Mediterranean, which is to be convened by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and UNEP in 1976.

8. B. To prepare and keep up-to-date, in the light of information collected, emergency plans that could be implemented:

- (i) in cases of massive oil pollution where there are no bilateral or multilateral agreements between coastal States;
- (ii) in sectors of the Mediterranean, yet to be identified, where the risk of massive accidental oil pollution is high or where the capability for prompt counter-action in times of emergency does not now exist.

9. The information collected in the performance of function A will provide an invaluable basis for the development of emergency plans. Areas for which such plans do not as yet exist and especially vulnerable areas would be identified.

10. Although States are not obliged to use the facilities of the centre, it was agreed at the consultation that they should keep the centre informed of the actions taken by them in the region to combat massive oil spills, in order that other States of the region may benefit from their experiences in preparing their own national contingency plans. The centre's own emergency plans would have to be prepared in co-operation with the coastal States concerned, and consequently the existing national plans of these States would be strengthened by co-operation with the centre.

11. C. To develop and maintain a communications and information system appropriate to the need of States being served by the Centre.

Elaborated in Part II.

12. D. To develop and encourage technological co-operation and training programmes for combating oil pollution.

13. The experts recommended that the centre's staff should include a training officer who would administer a programme for training nationals at Mediterranean countries in methods of combating oil spillages. One possible way of providing training would be to assist persons nominated by governments of Mediterranean States to attend specialist courses which would prepare them as on-scene supervisors in anti-pollution operations. At present, such training courses are provided, for example, by the Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, United Kingdom, and the Oil Spill Control School, Texas Agriculture and Mining University, USA. Another possibility would be for the centre's training officer to arrange a course which would be held within the Mediterranean region, perhaps at the centre itself. The course might include practical training sessions at the operative level in collaboration with one or more of the participating States, which could provide the necessary equipment and facilities.

14. E. To assist in strengthening the IRS by developing the capacity to serve as a sectoral focal point which could collect data concerning the sources of information available in connexion with oil pollution, with special emphasis on dealing with massive spills of oil, and could make the data available.

15. The IRS is conceived as a mechanism for connecting users of environmental information with sources of such information. A user, after addressing a query to IRS, is provided with a selected listing of those sources from which it should be possible to obtain the information necessary for dealing with the particular environmental problem. IRS is, therefore, a referral mechanism and is not itself a provider of substantive information about the environment. The IRS operates through a system of organizational participants viz: 4/

- (i) National Focal Points designated by governments and co-ordinating IRS activities for a particular country;
- (ii) Regional Focal Points designated by intergovernmental agreement co-ordinating some or all of the IRS activities within the group of countries concerned;
- (iii) Sectoral Focal Points designated by UNEP and concerned with international aspects of a specific set of environmental topics;
- (iv) Other Organizational Participants designated by UNEP or a focal point as major resources for environmental information exchange in full partnership with IRS.

16. It would seem most appropriate that the regional oil-combating centre should become an "Other Organizational Participant" (OOP). The tasks of the centre as an OOP would be:

4/ See IRS Operations Manual, August 1975

- (i) To collect information identifying sources of information with regard to oil pollution in a form compatible with that specified for the IRS International Directory; to code these and to maintain, in an appropriate form, a Focal Point Directory of sources; and to transmit to IRS International Directory information on those sources.
- (ii) To hold and maintain a copy of the International Directory in one of the forms provided by IRS and to provide access to this Directory.
- (iii) To accept requests from users within the Mediterranean region and to provide appropriate lists of sources in response to such queries, either performing a search of the International Directory or by referring the request to the IRS Central Unit.
- (iv) To act, in its field of competence, as a controlling agency for substantive information requests resulting from referrals generated internationally through IRS.
- (v) To channel communications to and from the Central Unit and other components of the International System.
- (vi) To assist in the publicity of IRS services with the aim of increasing the international community of users and sources.
- (vii) To maintain statistics on IRS generated referrals.

17. A great variety of means, mechanisms and administrative infrastructures may be used for the purpose of establishing a focal point and carrying out its functions within the IRS network. It is recommended that the staff of the centre should include an information officer and an assistant information officer. They would be primarily responsible for the functions described under A, C, and E above, which are concerned directly with information. It is estimated that the IRS activities would occupy approximately 25 per cent of their working time.

18. F. To develop and maintain close working relationships with other Mediterranean centres of regional activities and with the "specialized regional organisms" which play a co-ordinating role as set forth in the Barcelona Action Plan, 5/ particularly with the scientific institutions within the region.

19. It is expected that networks of national and regional institutions and centres designed to promote the numerous substantive parts of UNEP's Mediterranean programme will be reinforced or developed throughout the region. The regional oil-combating centre would be one of the centres within this institutional framework. The co-ordinated Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme which was approved at the Intergovernmental Meeting in Barcelona makes provision for the establishment of seven regional activity centres, each co-ordinating the work of one of the seven

5/ UNEP/WG.2/5, annex, section IV A.

pilot projects. ^{6/} The exports at the Malta Consultation emphasized that the oil-combating centre should maintain close contacts with the co-ordinating centre responsible for the pilot project "Baseline Studies and Monitoring of Oil and Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Marine Waters". They further recommend that contacts should be maintained with the activity centre responsible for the pilot project "Coastal Transport Problems of Pollutants", since it could provide information which would be useful in predicting the movement of oil spills. Communications should also be established with the co-ordinating centres responsible for research into the effects of pollutants on marine organisms and on marine communities, since oil is one of the pollutants whose effects will be studied. In addition they consider that it would be desirable that the oil-combating centre should establish working relationships with other regional activity centres outside the monitoring and research programme. For example the potential centre for marine parks and wetlands would be useful in identifying those areas which need special protection in oil pollution emergencies.

20. G. To co-operate in all appropriate activities which are directed towards the prevention and reduction of pollution in the Mediterranean resulting from oil spills.

21. Activities directed towards the prevention of oil pollution include such functions as formulating recommendations concerning the routing of ships in narrow and congested areas, procedures for the retention on board of oily water residues from tank washings, and the construction and equipment of ships with a view to minimizing operational and accidental spillage. These activities are normally undertaken by the international organizations competent in the specific field, such as IMCO, and would require expert knowledge of maritime transport. It is not suggested, therefore, that the regional centre itself should execute all the work of this nature; rather, the centre would promote the implementation of relevant existing international regulations, make valuable contributions to the work of competent international organizations, propose new regulations and improve existing ones. These contributions could include information concerning such matters as regional traffic conditions, significant environmental conditions peculiar to the Mediterranean, etc.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

22. The principal function of the centre's communications system would be to warn States likely to be affected of acute oil emergencies, such as a massive spill resulting from a collision of tankers. Such pollution emergencies may usually be observed from sea, air or land, and several systems of observation and reporting are possible. A standard procedure should be devised by which a ship's captain reports the spill either to a national coastal station or directly to the centre. If the event is reported to a national station, that station would relay the information to the centre. The centre would have a unit which should be equipped to make a quick analysis of the circumstances of the spill and its consequences, taking into account location, currents, winds and other relevant factors. In the light of its analysis, the centre would then notify the State or States likely to be affected; the channels of notification would be designated national

^{6/} ibid., section II

marine pollution centres. In addition, upon the request of the States concerned, the centre may help to co-ordinate the measures taken for combating the oil spill.

23. At present, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) is establishing a world-wide telecommunications system for navigational warnings between ships. The system will require those who participate in it to alert ships and the designated communicators as to where anti-pollution clean-up operations are taking place. The Mediterranean and the Black Sea constitute one of the sixteen geographical sub-units of the system, and contacts between the centre and the regional co-ordinating units in Spain and Turkey would provide a useful additional source of information about oil pollution emergencies.

24. The duty to report spills, the first step in the alert system, need not be limited to ships. Aircraft, satellites, and remote sensing mechanisms may also be sources of information concerning the location of oil pollution emergencies. In the Mediterranean, where air traffic routes link almost all the States concerned, governments and civil aviation authorities should encourage pilots to communicate information about oil spills to the centre through the air tower controls with which they are in contact. Additional information about spills may be obtained through reporting by coastal and offshore installations.

25. The identification of emergencies due to accumulated oil pollution will depend more on the continuous scientific monitoring of selected parameters than on the reporting of isolated physical observations. This monitoring is provided through the pilot project "Baseline Studies and Monitoring of Oil and Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Marine Waters", which is part of UNEP's Co-ordinated Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme. A report on any such emergency should be forwarded through the national centres to the regional centre, when accumulated discharges are polluting or threatening to pollute the sea. The regional centre would then be responsible for evaluating and, as appropriate, alerting the national centres of the States concerned. If requested, the centre could co-ordinate remedial action at the regional level. Emergencies resulting from accumulated oil pollution would not require the same communications facilities for reporting as would cases of accidental oil pollution spillage, but would require close working relationships among the various regional activity centres in the Mediterranean.

26. For accidental oil pollution spills, a network of rapid communications between the centre and the coastal States is required. As requested by the experts at the intergovernmental consultation, UNEP in co-operation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and IMCO, studied the communications facilities which would be needed for the centre. It was agreed that the centre would require telex and telephone facilities which would be available for use on a twenty-four hour basis. Each State wishing to co-operate with the centre would be expected to designate a national pollution centre, and this national centre would also be required to have a telex and a telephone which would be available continuously. The participating States should also ensure that the telex and telephone facilities would be available at coastal radio stations and air traffic control centres, so that information concerning oil spills could be reported immediately to the regional centre. It is strongly recommended that the coastal States should request ships and aircraft under their jurisdiction to relay information promptly on oil spills to the national pollution centres. The national centres should then relay the information to the regional centre, indicating the degree of urgency. The national

centres should also arrange for the use of the communication facilities of the national coastal radio stations and air traffic control centres during anti-pollution operations. This network of telex and telephone facilities of the centre, the national pollution centres, and the national coastal radio stations and air traffic control centres should provide a system of communications within the Mediterranean region which would be sufficiently rapid for alerting States likely to be affected by cases of oil pollution emergencies.

27. The experts at the intergovernmental consultation requested the Government of Malta, which has offered to act as host to the centre, to provide detailed information on the communications facilities available in Malta. A detailed outline of Malta's existing and proposed facilities is attached as Annex I to this report. After consultations with the ITU and IMCO, it was agreed that the telecommunications facilities expected to be available in Malta by January 1976 would be adequate to meet the estimated needs of the centre.

III. FINANCING

28. The intergovernmental consultation "agreed to ask UNEP and IMCO, in consultation with other United Nations agencies, the Government of Malta, and any other country who offers to host a centre, to provide detailed information which would include the financial aspects ... The estimate of costs should also include an indication of the contribution which the host government would be willing to provide." Annex II to this report provides detailed estimates of the costs of establishing the regional centre and of operating it for an initial five-year period. Annex II has been prepared on the basis of UNEP's guidelines for project proposals.

(i) STAFF

29. In the light of the objectives and functions outlined in Section I, it is recommended that the regional centre should have the following staff:

International

- (a) Director
- (b) Technical Expert
- (c) Information Officer

Local

- (d) Technical Assistant
- (e) Assistant Information Officer
- (f) Training Officer
- (g) Administrative Clerk
- (h) Draftsman
- (i) Two Secretaries

- (j) Three Typist/Telex Operators (24-hour watch staffing arrangement)
- (k) Driver
- (l) Caretaker

It is proposed that the staff should be recruited according to the work plan proposed in Annex III.

(ii) TRAINING PROVISIONS

30. The training officer may administer a programme under which four officers a year from the Mediterranean region would attend specialist courses in existing institutions to prepare them for the role of on-scene supervisor in anti-pollution operations. A budgeted allowance of US\$5,000 per annum has been provided for the years 1977 to 1980 to cover the costs of attending the courses. However, States may decide that they would prefer practical training sessions to be arranged in co-operation with one or more of the participating States which could provide the necessary equipment and facilities. For convenience, this may be the State acting as host to the regional centre or any subregional centre. An allowance of US\$20,000 per annum has been made under "Training" in the budget proposal by means of which the centre would be able to make a grant towards the costs incurred by any Mediterranean State that offered facilities to other countries in the region for training purposes.

(iii) TRAVEL

31. It is expected that, in the course of establishing working relationships with the Mediterranean States and of gathering information, the Director and the Technical Expert would need to visit each of the co-operating coastal States, presumably at least once a year. For this purpose, the Mediterranean may be divided into four sectors, so that four or five States may be visited in the course of one mission. Thus, eight fairly lengthy trips may take place each year, the cost of which may be estimated at US\$3,000 each. The annual travel expenses would, therefore, be US\$24,000.

(iv) COMMUNICATIONS

32. A budgeted allowance of US\$3,000 per annum has been made to cover the communications expenses.

(v) FACILITIES FOR PREPARING CONTINGENCY PLANS AND MAPS

33. The dissemination of information concerning the experts and equipment available for combating oil pollution in each coastal State, and of information about especially vulnerable areas, will require the preparation of special maps of the Mediterranean region. The precise cost would be dependent upon the method of production chosen. A budgeted allowance under "Miscellaneous" of US\$2,000 per annum for the years 1977 to 1980 has been made to cover this expense.

(vi) TRANSLATION SERVICES

34. Two of the centre's activities will be affected by language differences: the correspondence and communication carried on between the centre and participating States on a day-to-day basis to facilitate information exchange; and the official communications to States concerning contingency plans and other organizational

matters relating to regional co-ordination. The first of these activities can probably be dealt with without full-time translators, by recruiting staff with relevant language qualifications. Official documents, however, would need to be available in at least English, French and Arabic, and possibly other languages of the region. It seems unlikely, however, that the full-time services of a translation section will be required, and a scheme for translation by an agency should be investigated. A budgeted allowance under "Miscellaneous" of US\$40,000 per annum for the years 1977 to 1980 has been made to cover this expense.

Description of proposed Government contributions

35. At the intergovernmental consultation there was general agreement that the offer of Malta to act as host to the regional oil-combating centre should be considered favourably. If the regional centre should be located in Malta, the Government would make available free of charge suitable premises for the five-year period 1976 to 1980. The premises which the Government of Malta is offering consist of a building on Manoel Island overlooking the Marsamxett Harbour and the Yacht Marina. The building has approximately 2,000 square metres of floor area and will provide adequate space for office accommodation, store rooms, lecture halls and canteen facilities. At present, the premises are in a fair state of repair, but the Government of Malta has offered to refurbish the premises before the centre would begin to function. The location of the premises and plan of the building are shown in Annex IV. The rental value of these premises is estimated at US\$49,000 per annum: a total of US\$245,000 over a five-year period. These premises will be made available rent free for the first five years; however, the estimated maintenance cost of the building has been included in the budget.

36. In addition to the accommodation to be used by the regional centre, the Malta Government is prepared to make available one or more of its patrol boats, fully manned, for use in connexion with the training function of the centre. The details of this arrangement would have to be worked out when the training programmes are developed. It should be understood that the availability of such patrol boats would be subordinated to national needs and priorities. The Government of Malta is also exploring the possibility of obtaining some essential anti-pollution equipment, which would also be made available for use by the centre in its training activities. The centre would be expected to make appropriate compensation to cover the depreciation of the equipment and the cost of replacing the stocks.

37. The consultation also agreed that any other offers by Governments to act as host to the regional or subregional centres should be received by the UNEP Secretariat before 15 November 1975. No additional offer was received so far as the regional centre is concerned. However, UNEP received indications from several governments that they would be willing to act as host to a subregional oil-combating centre.

38. The Government of Greece submitted a proposal for the establishment of a subregional centre on the island of Crete. The proposed geographical scope of the subregional centre would be limited to the Eastern Mediterranean. The Greek Government proposed that the subregional centre should have the following functions:

- A. To collect and disseminate information on plans, methods and techniques used for combating oil pollution, in order to assist, as far as necessary, countries of the region in the preparation of their national contingency plans.

- B. To prepare and keep up-to-date, in the light of information collected, emergency plans that could be implemented:
 - i. in cases of massive oil pollution where there are no bilateral or multilateral agreements between coastal States;
 - ii. in sectors of the Mediterranean, yet to be identified, where the risk of massive accidental oil pollution is high or where the capability for prompt counteraction in cases of emergency does not exist at present.
- C. To develop and maintain a communications and information system appropriate to the needs of States being served by the centre.
- D. To develop and maintain close working relationships with other Mediterranean regional activities centres which play a co-ordinating role as set forth in the Barcelona Action Plan.

39. If the offer of Greece were to be accepted by the Mediterranean States, the Greek Government would enlarge an already existing centre on Crete by providing all the additional personnel and facilities necessary for the subregional centre to fulfil its functions. Furthermore, the Greek Government would offer training programmes to neighbouring States interested in preparing their nationals for roles in anti-pollution activities. With regard to the co-ordination of joint operational activities, the Greek Government would reserve the right to enter into bilateral or multilateral agreements with the governments concerned regarding methods of financing the activity. The estimated costs of operating a subregional centre on the island of Crete, as prepared by the Government of Greece, are outlined in Annex V. Unfortunately, UNEP did not have sufficient time before the preparation of this report to discuss and evaluate these estimates with the Greek Government. It is important to recognize that the cost estimates in Annex V for a subregional centre on Crete were prepared on a significantly different basis from that used for the estimates in Annex II for a regional centre on Malta. These cost estimates presented for the operation of a sub-regional centre are not, therefore, comparable to the cost figures presented for a regional centre which resulted from extensive discussions among the Government of Malta, IMCO and UNEP.

40. Aware of this difficulty of comparability, UNEP will endeavour to prepare some additional material on this subject before the Barcelona Conference of Plenipotentiaries. At present, efforts are under way to consult the Government of Greece in order to obtain further information on and clarification of their proposal. On the basis of these consultations, it should be possible to submit to the Conference comparable estimates of the costs of establishing both a regional and a subregional centre.

41. The Government of Turkey has informed UNEP of its wish to act as host to a subregional oil-combating centre. The offer of the Turkish Government did not include information concerning the contribution that the Government would be willing to provide.

42. UNEP has also received a letter from the Government of Cyprus in which that Government expressed its interest in acting as host to a subregional centre. The letter contained no information on the contribution that the Government would be willing to make towards the establishment of such a subregional centre.

43. Several governments informed UNEP that they were not interested in offering to act as host to a regional oil-combating centre, but that they would continue to consider supporting these centres if established. It was also specified that the decision not to offer to act as host to a regional oil-combating centre was without prejudice to any other offers which such governments may make to receive other regional activity centres within the overall Mediterranean activities.

IV. FINANCING

44. The estimated cost for developing and operating the regional oil-combating centre in Malta over a five-year period is US\$1,849,000. The Government of Malta has offered to provide rent-free accommodations for a value of US\$245,000, which leaves a sum of US\$1,604,000 that needs to be provided through external contributions.

45. The general view expressed at the intergovernmental consultation was that the centre should be principally financed by multilateral voluntary contributions from governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations. Ideally, the States and organizations using the centre would provide sufficient support for its operation, through donations either in cash or in kind (through the provision of staff, facilities or equipment). After the entry into force of the proposed Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment Against Pollution in the Mediterranean and the Protocol on Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency, the apportionment of support could be decided upon at the meetings of the Contracting Parties. The contributions and the mode of financing could then be regularly reviewed at the ordinary meetings of the Parties. Both the apportionment and the review of the financing can be regarded as specific applications of the provisions of Article 17 of the draft Convention and Articles 12 and 13 of the draft Protocol on co-operation. 7/

7/ DRAFT CONVENTION (UNEP/CONF.1/3)

Article 17

Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules

1. The Contracting Parties shall adopt Rules of Procedure for their meetings and conferences envisaged in Articles 13, 14 and 15.

2.* The Contracting Parties shall adopt Financial Rules, in consultation with the Organization, to determine, in particular, the participation of Contracting Parties, whether members or non-members of the United Nations, taking into account other possible sources of financing.

DRAFT PROTOCOL ON CO-OPERATION (UNEP/CONF.1/5)

Article 12*

The provisions of Articles 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 25 of the Convention, and the Rules of Procedure and Financial Rules adopted pursuant to Article 17 of the Convention shall apply with regard to this Protocol, to the extent that they are not modified by it.

46. However, UNEP is aware of the difficulty which States may experience initially in assessing what they should contribute to the centre and in determining how best to support its activities. Also, in the light of the history of other multilateral environmental legislation, it cannot be expected that the Convention and the Protocol will enter into force before the centre is envisaged to become operational, and hence, pending the entry into force of these instruments, the Contracting Parties will not meet. Consequently, in fulfilling its mandate to act as a catalyst in the development of environmental programmes, UNEP is prepared to cover the initial costs of creating and staffing the centre.

47. It should be recognized, however, that at the time of the fourth session of the Governing Council in Spring 1976, UNEP will have the authority to commit funds only through 1978, and that each subsequent session of the Council would extend that authority for another year. For this reason, although the draft budget for the centre has been prepared for a five-year period, as requested at the consultations in Malta, a line has been drawn after the budget year 1978 in Annex II in order to indicate the present limits to UNEP's authority to commit funds. In providing financial assistance, UNEP will assume that the governments of the countries of the Mediterranean region support in principle the establishment of the centre and that these governments will shortly contribute to its operational cost, allowing UNEP to diminish its financial support in the course of time. Contributions will also be sought from other international and intergovernmental organizations.

48. In conclusion, it may be noted that the regional oil-combating centre is designed to serve Mediterranean States. If these States do not express their support for the centre through voluntary contributions, then organizations outside the region may be hesitant to contribute to the development of the centre. If, however, the Mediterranean States show their determination to establish and maintain co-operatively a regional oil-combating centre through national contributions, then other international and intergovernmental organizations would be more apt to contribute to the governments' endeavours to protect the Mediterranean Sea.

(footnote continued)

Article 13*

Meetings of the Parties

1. Ordinary meetings of the Parties to this Protocol shall be held in conjunction with ordinary meetings of the Contracting Parties, held pursuant to Article 13 of the Convention, to deal with matters related to this Protocol. The Parties to this Protocol may also hold extraordinary meetings as provided in the Rules of Procedure.

2. It shall be the function of the meetings of the Parties to this Protocol, in particular:

- (a) To keep under review the implementation of this Protocol, and to consider the efficacy of the measures adopted and the need for any other measures;
- (b) To review and amend as required the Annexes to this Protocol;
- (c) To discharge such other functions as may be appropriate for implementation of this Protocol.

N.B. Articles and paragraphs identified by an asterisk were reviewed and harmonized by the secretariat of the Working Group of legal experts which met in Geneva, under UNEP auspices, from 7 to 11 April 1975.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

49. On the assumption that the Governments of the States of the Mediterranean region favour the establishment of a regional oil-combating centre, it is recommended that:

(a) The Mediterranean coastal States should request the Executive Director of UNEP to assist in the early establishment of a regional oil-combating centre in Malta.

(b) The centre should have the objectives and perform the functions which were recommended by the expert consultation held in Malta in September 1975 and which are set out in Section I of this report.

(c) The Executive Director should submit his report on the establishment of the regional oil-combating centre and the appropriate recommendations of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries to the Governing Council of UNEP at its fourth session and should seek to obtain any further authorization from the Council that he may need to draw on the Fund of UNEP for the purpose of defraying the expenses involved in the establishment and initial operating costs of the centre. This authorization should be accorded on the assumption that the co-operating Mediterranean States will gradually assume responsibility for the operational costs of the centre. The financing of the centre should be reviewed at the meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Convention and the appropriate Protocol, when these instruments have entered into force.

(d) On the basis of the proposal submitted by the Government of Greece, the Executive Director should continue to consult with the Greek Government with a view to the further refinement of their proposal. In his consultations, the Executive Director should take into account the proposals and views of **those** States which would be served by such a possible subregional centre.

ANNEX I

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES OF MALTA

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>EXISTING</u>	<u>PROPOSED BY JAN. 1976</u>
<u>Telephone</u>	Submarine coastal cable system between Malta and Sicily, providing 36 voice channels	(a) Increase in the capacity of the submarine coastal cable system Malta-Sicily from 36 to 48 voice channels (b) Setting up of a micro wave link between Malta and Sicily with a capacity of 120 voice channels (c) International Telephone Exchange (ITALTEL)
<u>Telegraph</u>	Voice frequency telegraphy system: Malta-Rome Malta-London	
<u>Radio Electric Links</u>	Providing radiotelephone, telegram, and telex services Malta-London Malta-Paris Malta-Rome	
<u>Telex</u>	200 line manual telex exchange	Automatic telex exchange 300 lines (to be expanded in 1976/77)
<u>Maritime: Coast Station (Malta Radio)</u>	(a) Medium frequency telegraphy, range about 600 miles (b) High frequency telegraphy, range about 1500 miles (c) Radiotelephony (2MHz) range about 200 miles	
<u>VHF Port Operation Service (Valletta Radio)</u>	Range about 60 miles Facsimile service (picture telegraphy)	
<u>Aeronautical</u>	24 hours two-way speech communication air to ground and vice-versa on VHF, extended VHF, UHF, and HF covering the following ranges: VHF - 50/200 miles Extended VHF - 300/500 miles UHF - 150/200 miles HF - Whole of Mediterranean	Setting up of Malta-Athens controller-to-controller speech circuit

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>EXISTING</u>	<u>PROPOSED BY JAN. 1976</u>
Point-to point circuits	High frequency-Radiotelephony-controller-to-controller speech circuit with Tripoli and Benghazi	
Direct voice circuits	Malta-Rome (submarine cable) Malta-Lampedusa (submarine cable)	
Aeronautical fixed telecommunication network (aeronautical telex system)	Covering whole of the Mediterranean with outlets via Rome, Tunis and Libya	

NOTE: With regard to the above mentioned aeronautical services, these facilities may be used provided that the States concerned agree with the provisions in Annex 10, Vol II, Chap.3, para. 3.3.3 of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regulations.

ANNEX II
PROPOSED BUDGET COVERING EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTIONS
(in US Dollars)

PROJECT PERSONNEL	TOTAL		1976		1977		1978		1979		1980	
	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$	m/m	\$
<u>International</u>												
Director (D 1)	52	217 500	4	20 500	12	44 000	12	45 000	12	42 000	12	69 000
Technical Expert (P 5)	48	189 000	-	-	12	41 000	12	38 000	12	41 000	12	66 000
Information Officer (P 4)	48	167 000	-	-	12	39 000	12	33 000	12	36 000	12	59 000
<u>Local</u>												
Technical Assistant (P 3)	46	99 000	-	-	10	21 000	12	23 000	12	25 000	12	30 000
Training Officer (P 3)	46	99 000	-	-	10	21 000	12	23 000	12	25 000	12	30 000
Assistant Info. Officer (P 2)	46	84 000	-	-	10	15 000	12	19 000	12	20 000	12	30 000
Administrative Clerk (P 2)	52	93 000	4	5 000	12	19 000	12	19 000	12	20 000	12	30 000
Draughtsman (G 6)	45	22 500	-	-	9	4 500	12	5 500	12	6 000	12	6 500
Bilingual Secretary (G 5)	52	25 000	4	1 500	12	5 500	12	5 500	12	6 000	12	6 500
Secretary (G 4)	48	21 000	-	-	12	4 500	12	5 500	12	5 500	12	6 000
Typist/Telex Operator (G 3)	138	47 500	-	-	30	10 000	36	12 000	36	12 500	36	13 000
Driver (G 2)	52	18 500	4	1 500	12	3 500	12	4 000	12	4 500	12	5 000
Caretaker (G 2)	52	18 500	4	1 500	12	3 500	12	4 000	12	4 500	12	5 000
COMPONENT TOTAL	725	1 102 000	20	30 000	165	231 500	180	236 500	180	248 000	180	356 000
<u>TRAINING</u>												
<u>Fellowships</u>												
Training of Operatives		160 000	-	-		40 000		40 000		40 000		40 000
4 Oil Pollution Control Officers Courses per annum of 1/2 m/m each in United Kingdom	8	20 000	-	-	2	5 000	2	5 000	2	5 000	2	5 000
COMPONENT TOTAL	8	180 000	-	-	2	45 000	2	45 000	2	45 000	2	45 000
<u>TRAVEL</u>												
COMPONENT TOTAL		96 000				24 000		24 000		24 000		24 000
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>												
COMPONENT TOTAL		12 000				3 000		3 000		3 000		3 000
<u>EQUIPMENT</u>												
Office Equipment		12 000		8 000		1 000		1 000		1 000		1 000
Office Automobile		12 000		6 000		1 500		1 500		1 500		1 500
Maintenance of Premises		15 000		1 000		3 500		3 500		3 500		3 500
COMPONENT TOTAL		39 000		15 000		6 000		6 000		6 000		6 000
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>												
Contingency Plans and Maps		8 000				2 000		2 000		2 000		2 000
Translation		162 000		2 000		40 000		40 000		40 000		40 000
Sundry		5 000		1 000		1 000		1 000		1 000		1 000
COMPONENT TOTAL		175 000		3 000		43 000		43 000		43 000		43 000
GRAND TOTAL		1 604 000		48 000		352 000		357 500		369 000		477 000

NOTE: m/m = man months.

ANNEX II bis

PROPOSED BUDGET COVERING GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART CONTRIBUTION IN CASH OR CASH EQUIVALENT

(in US Dollars)

Country: MALTA

Title: Regional Oil-Combating Centre for the Mediterranean Region

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Premises	<u>245 000</u>	<u>49 000</u>	<u>49 000</u>	<u>49 000</u>	<u>49 000</u>	<u>49 000</u>
COMPONENT TOTAL	<u>245 000</u>					

N.B. Above total does not include cost estimates for availability and depreciation of Maltese petrol boats and anti-pollution equipment which have been offered for training purposes. (see paragraph 36)

ANNEX III

DRAFT TIMETABLE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CENTRE

	1976												1977												1978					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
RECRUITMENT OF STAFF																														
Director																														
Bi-lingual Secretary																														
Technical Expert																														
Information Officer																														
Secretary																														
Typist/Telex Operator (1)																														
Driver/Messenger																														
Assistant Information Officer																														
Technical Assistant																														
Training Officer																														
Draughtsman/Tracer																														
Typist/Telex Operators (2)																														
ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE																														
Collection of information (Function A)																														
Emergency plans (Function B)																														
Communications system (Function C)																														
Training (Function D)																														
IRS (Function E)																														
Relations with regional institutions (Function F)																														
Prevention of oil pollution (Function G)																														

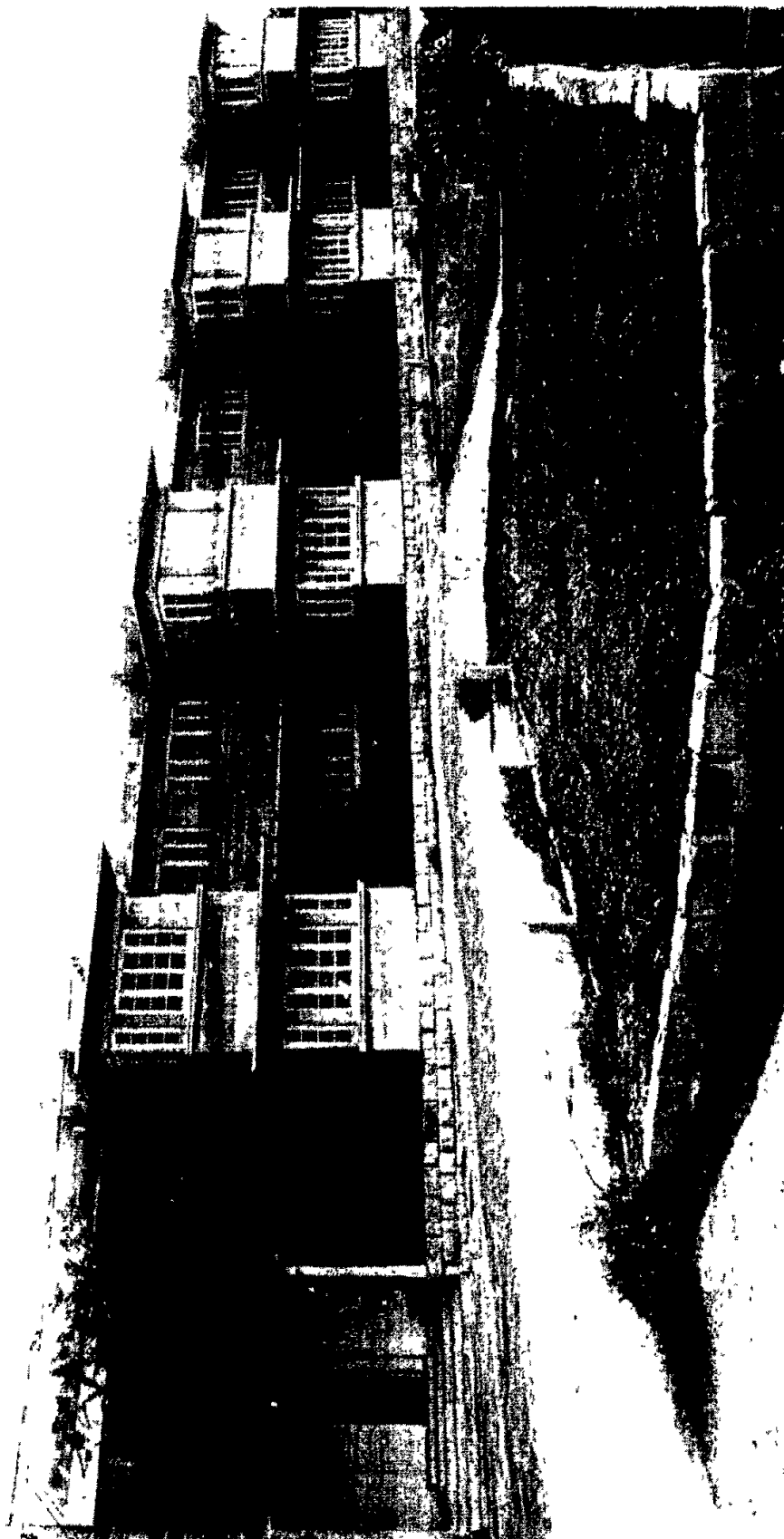
ANNEX IV(B)

AERIAL VIEW OF THE PROPOSED SITE OF THE CENTRE

of the Centre for the Study of the Environment



ANNEX IV(c)
BUILDING OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE



ANNEX V

A. ANNUAL BUDGET COVERING SUBREGIONAL OIL-
COMBATING CENTRE ON ISLAND OF CRETE

	<u>US \$</u>
1. Telecommunications	
i. Telex 4 000 x 3 x \$1	12 000
ii. Cables 2 000 x 20 x \$0 25	10 000
iii. Calls 1 000 x 3 x \$1	3 000
iv. Telephone circuit rental	75 000
v. Telegraph circuit rental	20 000
Total	<u>120 000</u>
2. General operational and training expenses	
i. Rents 12 x \$1,500	18 000
ii. Personnel travelling expenses	15 000
iii. Chemical laboratory expenses (Monitoring of hydrocarbons)	22 000
iv. Trainees' Salaries	10 000
v. Materials, fuel, etc.	30 000
vi. Other expenses	30 000
Total	<u>125 000</u>
3. Personnel salaries	
Including:	
i. Director (1)	
ii. Officers: a. Training (1)	
b. Communications (1)	
c. Operations (1)	
d. Statistics (1)	
iii. Assistants (4)	
iv. Secretaries (3)	
v. Interpreters (3)	
vi. Servants (2)	
vii. Scientists (3)	
viii. Technicians (3)	
Total	215 000
4. Depreciation of equipment	300 000
GRAND TOTAL	<u>760 000</u>

B. ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT OF GREECE

	<u>\$</u>
1. Current annual costs for operation of existing centre	260 000
2. Depreciation of the equipment offered by Greece (total value \$2 000 000)	<u>300 000</u>
Total	560 000

C. ANNUAL EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTION

1. Additional telecommunications expenses	100 000
2. Additional general expenses and training (for 30 trainees)	<u>100 000</u>
Total	200 000

D. COST FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

Government of Greece	2 800 000
External Contribution	1 000.000