



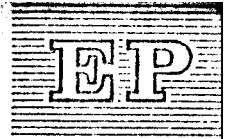
United Nations Environment Programme



Distr.
RESTRICTED

UNEP/IG.56/Inf.7
6 June 1985

ENGLISH
Original: French



Fourth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to
the Convention for the Protection of the
Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its
related Protocols.

Genoa, 9 - 13 September 1985

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL OIL COMBATING CENTRE IN 1984

INTRODUCTION

1. The activities of ROCC during 1984 have been carried out within the framework of the 1984 and 1985 programme approved by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. The most important actions undertaken during the past year are summarized in the present document, with the exception of financial matters which are dealt with in a separate monthly report. Complementary information and the relevant reports are available on request. The new Director of the Centre Mr Voirin took up his functions during the summer in replacement of Mr Le Lourd.

TRAINING

2. A National Seminar on prevention, control and combat of marine pollution was organized jointly between the Egyptian Authorities and ROCC from 15 to 20 September 1984 in Alexandria (Egypt). The programme was based on that of the first National Seminar organized by ROCC in Cyprus the previous year and improved upon both through the experience gained and for better adaptation in the particular case of the country concerned. Thirty five Egyptian officials with responsibilities in the field and coming from all the national structures concerned with anti-pollution problems participated to this Seminar.

3. A Seminar for the Mediterranean Region on the drawing up and activation of a contingency plan, MEDEXPOL 84, was organized by ROCC with the assistance of the Port Autonome de Marseille and the French Authorities between 8 and 12 October 1984, in Marseille. Planned around the INTERPOLMAR Exercise (an exercise on the activation of the contingency plans on land and at sea), it brought together ten Mediterranean experts in anti-pollution combat. The Seminar consisted of three days of lectures and case studies and two days of participation to the INTERPOLMAR Exercise (simulation of a super tanker accident involving coastal pollution). The participants embarked on vessels of the Marine Nationale and assisted in particular to the effective towing operations of the super tanker "MOBIL FALCON" of 280 000 tons deadweight.

4. A general training course in anti-pollution combating, MEDIPOL 84, was organized for the fourth time in Marseille between 4 and 14 December 1984. Fourteen participants from thirteen Mediterranean countries attended this course. The programme covered the different aspects of anti-pollution combating. The technical and operational sections were reinforced by reducing considerably the time previously dedicated to Contingency Plans, which were given due importance during MEDEXPOL. The lecturers were chosen by ROCC from among the best of the French and international experts available at present. A special effort was made to ensure the financial means for the provision of very good quality simultaneous French-English interpretation.

5. Grants for training were awarded to the Mediterranean coastal States during the first semester. They were intended to enable these countries to send participants to training courses not organized by ROCC but offering anti-pollution training capable of answering their needs:

- IP/WSL Training Course (IPSWICH, United Kingdom)
29 April to 4 May - 3 grants awarded;
- INFOPOL Training Course (Paris - Brest - Marseille, France)
14-25 May - 2 grants awarded.

6. ROCC's audio-visual documentation has been improved thanks to the acquisition of video cassettes (in english) on the different aspects of anti-pollution combating, of transparencies on MARPOL 73/78 and also of a 16mm film on the PROTECMAR experiments (in French).

INFORMATION

7. Two issues of ROCC News have been published during the year in English and French.

8. Lectures have been given during different seminars and courses:

- (i) By the Director:

INFOPOL	France	in May	(1)
NATIONAL SEMINAR	Egypt	in September	(7)
MEDEXPOL 84	France	in October	(3)
MEDIPOL 84	France	in December	(3)
- (ii) By the Technical Expert:

NATIONAL SEMINAR	Egypt	in September	(8)
MEDEXPOL 84	France	in October	(2)
MEDIPOL 84	France	in December	(4)

9. Some documents have been disseminated or updated. Among these, particular mention can be given to:

- Inventory for the Mediterranean of Participants to Training Courses in Oil Pollution Combating (List 4 Rev.1);
- Project Report on ROCC by the out-going Director (June);
- Report on the Exploratory Mission to the Union des Ports Maritimes Arabes, Baghdad (February);
- Report on Directors' Mission to Syria (April);
- Report on Egyptian National Seminar (September).

The report relevant to MEDEXPOL and MEDIPOL are still waiting for the section to be supplied by the Port Autonome de Marseille.

PERSONNEL

10. (i) The new Director joined the Centre on 25 June and took up his duties on 30 June, his predecessor's day of departure from Malta.
- (ii) Since 1 July, Mr Darko Domovic, ROCC's Technical Consultant for the last years has been appointed Technical Expert.

VISITS

11. The Director, either directly or on the occasion of the organization of a training course or seminar, has paid visits to the following countries:

- Iraq from 13 to 17 February to Baghdad, to the Secretariat de l'Union des Ports Maritimes Arabes (UPMA);
- Syria from 21 to 27 April, for the preparation of a National Contingency Plan;
- Egypt from 15 to 20 September, taking the opportunity of the National Seminar;
- France, to Paris and to Toulon, benefitting from the trip in connection with the MEDIPOL training course.

12. Visits to London (IMO) and to Athens (Co-ordinating Unit) have also been paid by the new Director before taking up his duties. A second visit to London took place from 12 to 14 November.

PREPAREDNESS FOR OIL COMBATING

13. (i) The Centre, in 1984 as in the past, has disseminated the List of Alerts and Accidents which were brought to our knowledge since 1977. A revised edition of the Directory of Societies offering Services in the Mediterranean in cases of Emergency, as well as of the Inventory of Oil Pollution Combating Experts in the Mediterranean Region were also disseminated.
- (ii) An Alert Exercise through the application of the Standard Format was organized in June. Sixteen countries out of 17 signatories to the Barcelona Convention participated (see Report of Second Alert Exercise disseminated in July).
- (iii) A request was made by the Lebanese Focal Point to send an expert to Lebanon for a period of two weeks in December. However, due to new events in Lebanon, the mission was cancelled.
- (iv) Dissemination of a questionnaire to update the Inventory of anti-pollution Stockpiles (February), collection of information in September.
- (v) Dissemination of questionnaire for the updating of the Inventory of Equipment and Products (July), collection of information in December.
- (vi) First phase of the drawing-up of the Guide to Anti-pollution for the Mediterranean at the end of MEDEXPOL.