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**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Workshop to review the implementation of the Dumping Protocol  
and its Guidelines

Nicosia, Cyprus, 17-18 February 2005

**REPORT**

**WORKSHOP TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DUMPING PROTOCOL  
AND ITS GUIDELINES**



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## **Participants**

Representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Israel, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Slovenia and Tunisia together with 4 regional experts participated to the workshop. (List of participant is attached in annex (I))

## **Opening and Objectives of the Workshop (Agenda item I)**

Mr Gabriel Gabrielides, Director of Fisheries, opened the workshop on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus Republic who welcomed the participants and highlighted the achievements of Cyprus in the framework of the implementation of Dumping Protocol.

Mr Rene Coenen on behalf of the London Convention (LC) stressed on the importance of the event for LC and the necessity to develop cooperation between MEDPOL and LC secretariats to assist the Contracting Parties to Barcelona Convention for the improvement of the management of dumping activities in the Mediterranean.

Mr Francesco Saverio Civili, MEDPOL Coordinator mentioned that considering the expected entry into force of the 1996 Dumping Protocol and in view of the experience gathered in the region through the implementation of the 1976 Protocol, the MED POL Secretariat felt the need to organize a workshop to review legal and practical aspects of the implementation of the 1996 Protocol including the application of the related Guidelines. The results of the Workshop that will benefit from presentations of external as well as national Mediterranean experts are expected to review technical aspects of the Guidelines, review and discuss problems and bottlenecks, share case studies and success stories and thus assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

As a result of the opening the workshop elected the Chairman, Mr Loizos Loizides, Cypriot representative.

## **The legal framework (Agenda item II)**

Mr Coenen presented a paper outlining the legal framework of LC, the guidelines, which are developed, and the status of the ratification of the LC and the expected entry into force of the LC.

Mr Civili, outlined the CPs commitments in the framework of the 1996 Mediterranean Dumping protocol and highlighted the major changes with 1976 protocol stressing on the importance that the CPs should prepare the ground for the implementation of the amended protocol even though it is not yet entered into force.

Mr Abousamra, MEDPOL programme officer, drew in details the structure of the three guidelines adopted by the CPs in the framework of the dumping protocol.

## **Review of 1995-2001 Dumping activities in the Mediterranean (Agenda item III)**

Mr Ezzio Amato presented the assessment of the dumping activities in the Mediterranean on the basis of the collected information through the dumping permits and other sources. The paper focused on the status of management of dumping activities including information on amounts and type of dumping operations covering to a large extent the period of time during which dumping was permitted by the 1976 Protocol. The gathered information permitted the assessment of the legal, institutional and technical preparedness of the countries for the implementation of the amended Dumping Protocol and for the future planning of monitoring activities.

#### **Applying the Dumping Protocol Guidelines (Agenda item IV)**

Under this Agenda item, the regional experts, Mr Alzieu, Ms. Esteban, Mr. Osborn and Mr. Escobar shared respectively with the participants concrete experiences on the application of the three Guidelines Management of dredged material, Disposal of decommissioned offshore installations, Management of fish wastes prepared according to Art.4 of the Mediterranean Dumping Protocol in line with those of the London Convention, and of one additional Guideline for Placement of matter for a purpose different from the mere disposal prepared in the framework of OSPAR, which will soon be prepared for the Mediterranean region as well.

#### **Case studies (Agenda item V)**

Under this Agenda item, two experts, Mr Amato and Mr Alzieu presented two case studies related to issues occurred and likely to occur in the region, i.e. the dumping of used ammunitions and the management of dredged material on land.

#### **Countries' presentations on the management of dumping activities and the possible application of the approved Guidelines (Agenda item VI)**

The CPs representatives presented their national experiences on the management of dumping activities is organized in their country, and on their possible experience in the application of the Dumping Guidelines. The presentations were very instructive for the secretariats and the participants since it highlighted the achievements, difficulties and barriers that the CPs are facing in the implementation of the dumping protocol.

#### **Improving the management of dumping activities: towards the implementation of the 1996 Dumping Protocol (Agenda item VII)**

As a follow up to the countries' presentations as well as the review of implications of the application of the Dumping Guidelines made by the CPs presentations and the experts, the workshop undertook a general discussion that highlighted the prospects of implementation of the 1996 Dumping Protocol.

#### **Conclusions and Recommendations (Agenda item VIII)**

As a result of the discussions a set of recommendations addressed to the MEDPOL secretariat and the CPs were agreed upon. These recommendations (Annex III), in case of their implementation, could highly improve the ground for the implementation of the guidelines.

**ANNEX I**

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**ANNEX II**

**AGENDA**





## **Session I**

### Opening and Objectives of the Workshop

The Workshop is organized by the MED POL Programme in the framework of the implementation of the Dumping Protocol in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus and the London Convention Secretariat. It will start on Thursday 17 February at 9,30 hours and will be held at the Hotel Cleopatra, 8, Florina Street, 1065 Nicosia, tel: +357 22 671000, fax: +357 22 670618, e-mail: cleotel@cleopatra.com.cy.

Considering the expected entry into force of the 1996 Dumping Protocol and in view of the experience gathered in the region through the implementation of the 1976 Protocol, the MED POL Secretariat felt the need to organize a workshop to review legal and practical aspects of the implementation of the 1996 Protocol including the application of the related Guidelines. The results of the Workshop, that will benefit from presentations of external as well as national Mediterranean experts, are expected to review technical aspects of the Guidelines, review and discuss problems and bottlenecks, share case studies and success stories and thus assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

The Workshop will be opened by the MED POL Programme Coordinator, authorities from the Cypriot Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment and the representative of the London Convention.

## **Session II**

The legal framework:

- The London Convention
- The 1996 Mediterranean Dumping Convention
- The Guidelines to the Mediterranean Dumping Convention

Under this session, representatives of the London Convention and the MED POL Secretariat will review the legal aspects of the above international instruments with a view at identifying and discussing common issues and assisting their implementation.

## **Session III**

### Review of 1995-2001 Dumping activities in the Mediterranean

In view of the environmental effects that Dumping activities may have and the fact that they have been extensive, as permitted by the 1976 Dumping Protocol, the MED POL Secretariat felt that it would have been useful to prepare an over all review document by collecting information through the dumping permits and other sources on the status of management of dumping activities including information on amounts and type of dumping operations covering to a large extent the period of time during which dumping was permitted by the 1976 Protocol. The gathered information will be used to assess the legal, institutional and technical preparedness of the countries for the implementation of the amended Dumping Protocol and for the future planning of monitoring activities.

Under this session, the MED POL Consultant who was contracted to prepare the document will present the results of his review.

#### **Session IV**

Applying the Dumping Protocol Guidelines:

- Management of dredged material
- Disposal of decommissioned offshore installations
- Management of fish wastes
- Placement of matter for a purpose different from the mere disposal

Under this session, a number of experts will share with the participants concrete experiences on the application of the three Guidelines prepared according to Art.4 of the Mediterranean Dumping Protocol in line with those of the London Convention, and of one additional Guideline (on placement of matters), prepared in the framework of OSPAR, which will soon be prepared for the Mediterranean region as well.

#### **Session V**

Two case studies:

- Dumped ordnance: a source of chemical pollution
- On-land management of dredged material in case of non-compatibility for dumping

Under this session, two experts will present two case studies related to issues occurred and likely to occur in the region, i.e. the dumping of used ammunitions and the management of dredged material on land. A discussion will follow.

Countries' presentations on the management of dumping activities and the possible application of the approved Guidelines

Under this session, the countries' representatives will be asked to make a brief presentation (10/15 minutes) on how the management of dumping activities is organized in their country, and on their possible experience in the application of the Dumping Guidelines.

#### **Session VII**

Improving the management of dumping activities: towards the implementation of the 1996 Dumping Protocol

As a follow up to the countries' presentations as well as the review of implications of the application of the Dumping Guidelines made by the experts, the workshop will continue with a general discussion that will highlight the prospects of implementation of the 1996 Dumping Protocol. The discussion will also identify needs of the countries as well as the possible role of the Secretariat towards an appropriate implementation of the Protocol.

#### **Session VIII**

Conclusions and Recommendations

As a follow up to the discussions and the presentations, the Secretariat will attempt to draw conclusions and propose recommendations for the future that will be discussed and adopted by the participants.

**ANNEX III**  
**RECOMMENDATION**



### **Recommendations on Dumping Activities in the Mediterranean**

- ❖ Recalling the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal region of the Mediterranean (1995 Barcelona Convention), of its amended Protocol on Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea (1995 Dumping Protocol), of the London Convention and the 1996 London Protocol;
- ❖ Recognizing the need to reduce and eventually stop dumping activities in the Mediterranean according to the provisions of Dumping Protocol of 1995;

The Participants of the MED POL Workshop on dumping activities in the Mediterranean held in Nicosia, Cyprus, on 17-18 February 2005, agreed on the following recommendations:

#### **To the Contracting Parties to Barcelona Convention:**

1. With reference to the countries who have not yet ratified the 1995 amended Dumping Protocol and the London Protocol, to make any efforts to ratify the two instruments as soon as possible, thus allowing their entry into force;
2. To manage national dumping activities according to the provisions of the 1995 Dumping Protocol and of the 1996 London Protocol and comply with the more stringent requirements as appropriate;
3. To consider the Guidelines developed in the framework of the Dumping Protocol and the London Protocol as the basis to develop national legal, institutional and technical arrangements to implement the provisions of the two Protocols;
4. To strengthen the coordination and cooperation between the national administrations involved in managing dumping activities and the Ministry of environment and port authorities;
5. To ensure that national vessels and aircrafts, entitled to sovereign immunity under international law, act in a manner consistent with the Barcelona Convention and the 1995 Dumping Protocol, in particular with reference to the dumping of ordnance;
6. To ensure that all placements of artificial reefs are managed within the aims of the London and the 1995 Dumping Protocols and, preferably, to avoid any placement of ships while waiting for the preparation by the MED POL secretariat of specific Guidelines on placement of matters for other purposes than dumping.
7. To strengthen cooperation and exchange of information between Contracting Parties on matters related to the implementation of the Dumping Protocol and its Guidelines, as appropriate.

#### **To the MED POL Secretariat:**

1. To strengthen cooperation, coordination and exchange of information with the London Convention Secretariat;

2. To ensure harmonization of the reporting systems of the Barcelona Convention and the London Convention on dumping activities;
3. To collate information and prepare a review/assessment of historical dumping sites of ordnance in the Mediterranean;
4. To collate information on treatment of dredged material on land and to disseminate it to all Mediterranean countries;
5. In cooperation with MED POL National Coordinators, to assess countries' needs and prepare and implement an assistance programme (covering legal, technical and institutional aspects) for the proper application of the Dumping Protocol and its Guidelines. This activity will be carried out in collaboration with competent international organizations (e.g. EU, IMO, etc.);
6. To prepare a methodology to assist countries to establish national limit values (action values) for the appropriate management of dredged materials.