

ROPME

SEA KAPS



A special issue of ROPME newsletter "The Marine Environment"

No. : 2/1998

MEETING OF EXPERTS TO UPDATE THE MANUAL OF OCEANOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS AND POLLUTANTS ANALYSES METHODS (MOOPAM)



(Kuwait 28 February - 3 March 1998)

INTRODUCTION

In accordance to the Decision CM9/3 of the Ninth Meeting of ROPME Council (June 1996), a Meeting of Experts to Update the Manual of Oceanographic Observations and Pollutants Analyses Methods (MOOPAM) was held at ROPME Secretariat during 28 February - 3 March 1998. The main objective of the Meeting was to revise the Manual of Oceanographic Observations and Pollutants Analyses Methods (MOOPAM).

The Meeting was opened with a welcome statement from H.E. Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi, Executive Secretary of ROPME. In his statement, Dr. Al-Awadi informed the Meeting that the Manual is designed primarily as a guide to the field surveys, sampling and analytical methods to be used by the participating institutions for implementation of the Monitoring and Research Programme for oceanographic characteristics and oil and non-oil pollutants in the ROPME Region.

BRIEFING ON MOOPAM

The first edition of MOOPAM, was prepared in cooperation with KISR-Kuwait and published in 1983. It was designed to meet the requirements for sampling and analyses set by the Second Task Team Meeting on Oceanography and Baseline Studies on Oil and Non-Oil Pollutants (January 1982). The Second edition of the MOOPAM was published in 1989 and considered important achievement of ROPME Region.

The manual is organized into four major sections covering all the tasks required for the regional studies. The sections are as follows:

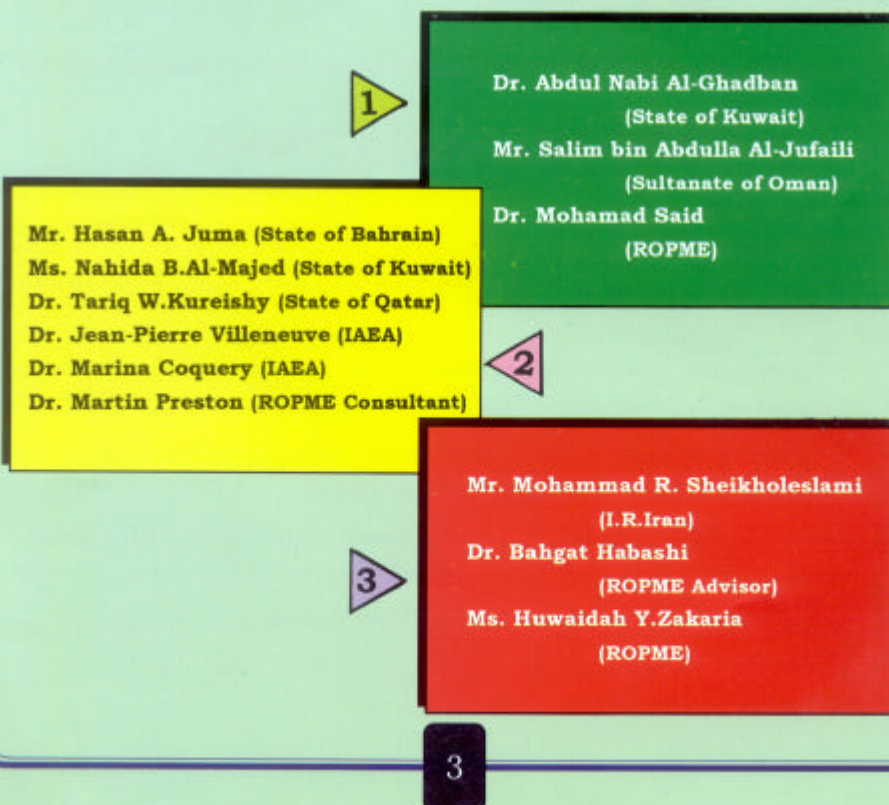
- Marine meteorology, physical oceanography and sea surface observations.
- Sampling and in-situ measurements.
- Laboratory analyses for water quality, oil and non-oil pollutants, sediment and dust fallout associated pollutants.
- Ecological survey

The majority of the included methods were adopted from UN specialized agencies and other universally accepted sources. Methods for environment contaminant analyses being developed by IAEA (MESL) for UNEP were relied upon in revising the relevant sections.

Organization Of The Meeting & Formation Of Working Groups

To achieve the objectives of the meeting three working groups were formed among the participants as follows :

- 1 - *Working Group on Meteorology and Physical and Geological Oceanography.*
- 2 - *Working Group on Chemical Oceanography and Contaminants.*
- 3 - *Working Group on Biological Oceanography.*



Dr. Mahmood Y. AbdulRaheem Coordinator (Tech. & Admin) gave a brief introduction of the Tasks to be carried out by the groups. He briefed the participants on the historical development of MOOPAM adding that this Review comes in accordance with recommendations of the ROPME/GIPME Meeting regarding the review of the Regional Marine Monitoring and Research Programmes. The review should also take into account the revised list of parameters to be sampled in the Marine Monitoring and Research Programmes.

Dr. Abdul Raheem further stated that the "Reference Methods" available at the ROPME Secretariat and that provided by IAEA are being made available to the Meeting along with other relevant references available from the ROPME Library.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Meeting agreed that the "Conclusions of the Working Groups" will be considered as a Guideline for ROPME Secretariat to follow-up while updating MOOPAM.
2. The participants will provide ROPME with the new methods of analyses and literature needed by the end of May 1998.
3. The Meeting adopted the report based on the understanding that ROPME will incorporate the suggested changes in the MOOPAM.
4. Remote Sensing Techniques are recommended to be included in a Separate Chapter.
5. Marine ecosystems and fisheries studies should be treated as a special tasks and prepared in a separate manual.

Impressions of Participants On MOOPAM

As a specialist in organic analytical chemistry I participated in training many employees in this field in our laboratory IAEA in Monaco.

This Manual is prepared in accordance with the latest technological development, in order to face the needs of the Regional Organizations at UNEP levels.



Dr. Jean-Pierre Villeneuve - IAEA

This Manual will be valid for long time, Specially the chemical section which includes the latest advanced modifications and new methods of analysis.

I am very happy to participate in the effort of updating MOOPAM, and wishing ROPME all success.



Dr. Marina Coquery - IAEA

We succeeded to add many modifications and updating the methods of analysis and added special section regarding the Quality Assurance.

The manual in its new form will be valid for at least 5 years, but it is necessary to update it continuously according to the rapid development of Science and Technology.



*Dr. Martin R. Preston
Liverpool University*

We prepared a table of contents which will be used as a guideline while updating the MOOPAM.

We are also updating some methods, removing the old methods and replacing with new more advanced methods in that manual.



*Mr. Hassan Ahmed Juma
Bahrain*

The manual is important for the Region because it is considered to be the main reference which all countries in Region will use - with global specifications. This work is done jointly with Experts from IAEA and Liverpool University.

We have many laboratories in the Region, some of which are well developed but need financial support to be able to cover all analysis required in the Region.



*Dr. Mohammad Reza Sheikholeslami
I. R. Iran*

I suggest that the period for reviewing the manual should be not more than 2 years instead of 9 years earlier, because of rapid changes in the field of science and technology.

I appreciate the efforts of ROPME in that direction which give us the opportunity to exchange expertise and mutual scientific cooperation between the Experts of the Region.



*Ms. Nahida B. Al-Majed
Kuwait*

I participated in geological working group. There we reviewed all information related to the geological oceanography.

The Meeting was successful because of the active role of IAEA, Liverpool University Expert and the role of ROPME Secretariat in achieving the aims of the Meeting.



*Dr. Abdul Nabi Al-Ghadban
KISR, Kuwait*



Mr. Salim bin Abdullah Al-Ju'aili,
Oman

We added many sections to the Manual and I offered some suggestions concerning evaporation rates and solar radiation.

Remote Sensing Techniques are recommended to be prepared as an independent chapter specially with the increasing use of satellite imagery in the assesment of the marine environment.



Dr. Tariq W. Kureishy
Qatar

The number of laboratories in our Region are sufficient but it is necessary to update them with the new methods of analysis that are being applied internationally.

The target was difficult because it is important to do it in accordance with the climatic conditions of the Region taking into consideration the new technology developments.



Dr. Bahgat Habashi
ROPME Advisor

I have been a participant in the Task Team since 1982 for preparing the First issue of that Manual which came out in 1983. I appreciate ROPME nomination to participate in the Experts Meeting of updating Manual today in 1998.

I hope that we can also prepare special Manuals for assessment of atmospheric environment and for the land-based analysis because of their importance in the assessment of the environment as a whole.



Dr. Mahmood Yousef Abduraheem
ROPME

The Meeting was successful in achieving its aims and objectives because of the cooperation between working groups and the participation of IAEA and Liverpool University Experts.

The Meeting agreed on the Guidelines for ROPME to follow-up in updating MOOPAM.

We hope that we receive the new methods of analysis and literature needed by the end of May, 1998 in order to finalize this task as soon as possible.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

STATE OF BAHRAIN

Mr. HASSAN AHMED JUMA
Environmental Chemist
Ministry of Housing, Municipalities and Environment

I. R. IRAN

Mr. MOHAMMAD REZA SHEIKHOLESLAMI
Consultant
Department of the Environment

STATE OF KUWAIT

Ms. NAHIDA B. AL-MAJED
Head, Water Pollution Control Section
Environment Public Authority

Dr. ABDUL NABI AL-GHADBAN
Research Scientist
Environmental and Earth Sciences Division
Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research

SULTANATE OF OMAN

Mr. SALIM BIN ABDULLA AL-JUFALI
Head, Marine Pollution Section
Ministry of Regional Municipalities and Environment

STATE OF QATAR

Dr. TARIQ W. KUREISHY
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Marine Science
University of Qatar

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

Dr. JEAN- PIERRE VILLENEUVE
Training Officer
IAEA Marine Environment Laboratory

Dr. MARINA COQUERY
IAEA Marine Environment Laboratory

CONSULTANT

Dr. MARTIN R. PRESTON
Senior Lecturer
Oceanography Laboratories
University of Liverpool

ROPME SECRETARIAT

Dr. MAHMOOD Y. ABDULRAHEEM
Co-ordinator (Tech. & Admin). ROPME

Dr. MOHAMED A. SAID
Marine Environment Expert
ROPME

Dr. BAHGAT HABASHI
ROPME Advisor

Ms. HUWAIDA Y. ZAKARIA
Biologist
ROPME

