

ROPME SEA KAPS



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THE FIFTH TASK FORCE MEETING ON RECEPTION FACILITIES



BAHRAIN, 18-20 APRIL 1999

INTRODUCTION

The Fifth Task Force Meeting on Reception Facilities was convened by ROPME/MEMAC in Manama, Bahrain during 19-20 April 1999. The main objective of the Meeting was to review and approve the draft Final Report of the Feasibility Study for establishing Reception Facilities in the Region. Another objective of the Meeting was to decide on future course of action in presenting the draft Final Report to the Executive Committee of ROPME for adoption and to the International Maritime Organization for acceptance as adequate for the purpose. The Meeting also discussed the Plan of Implementation and elaborated on the ways and means for the establishment and management of reception facilities in the Region.

The Meeting was attended by Members of the Task Force, including Representatives of the GCC Secretariat, GAOCTAO, UNEP/ROWA and IMO, the Project Consultants, as well as H.E. the Executive Secretary and the professional staff of ROPME.



OPENING OF THE MEETING



The Meeting was opened by H.E.Dr.Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi, Executive Secretary of ROPME who welcomed the participants and wished them fruitful deliberations and a successful Meeting. He stated that extensive efforts had been exerted by all the stakeholders of the Project to prepare for and to carry out this Feasibility Study. The Project had been identified as one of the priority areas of cooperation between GCC and ROPME Secretariats. It had been agreed to divide the Project administratively into two phases, the first to be financed by the European Union, under the GCC-EU Cooperation Programme, and the second to be carried out under another contract with the ROPME Secretariat. The Project received financial support from the GCC Secretariat, UNDP, Bahrain Petroleum Company, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, Saudi Aramco and Arabian Oil Company. IMO had also made a major contribution in advancing the Feasibility Study by assigning a representative to the Task Force and providing necessary data and information.

Dr. Al-Awadi added that ROPME supports every effort towards the accession to MARPOL 73/78 and meeting the requirements of adequate reception facilities in the Region in order to declare the ROPME Sea Area as a "Special Area". To this effect, it is necessary to establish reception facilities and protect the marine environment from operational discharges of oil tankers, commercial ships and port facilities in a number of designated locations.

He invited the Meeting to ascertain that the draft Final Report is a full-fledged, comprehensive and practicable Project Document as prepared in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract. To this end, the Meeting was requested to review the Report thoroughly and discuss all the documents extensively.

The Project consultants presented the draft Final Report of the Feasibility Study including the following documents:

- Background, Discussion and Conclusions
- Traffic and Waste Analysis
- Technical Recommendations and Economic Consequences
- Summary and Recommendations
- Plan of Implementation



The Meeting discuss the draft Final Report and the Plan of Implementation in detail and provided the Consultants with amendments and comments on the Text.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The Meeting agreed to the following recommendations:

- Existing reception facilities are to be fully addressed in the Feasibility Study with a view to upgrade and utilize them within the Regional Plan of Implementation.
- The Plan of Implementation is to provide guidelines for tender bids, as well as a regional framework of action for the establishment of national reception facilities through a co-ordinated regional approach.
- Details of investment and operational costs of each national reception facility are to be supported by proper references, taking into account the existing facilities in each location.
- National reception facilities could also be integrated with other facilities and provide services (reception and treatment of wastes) to land-based sources of pollution, platforms as well as to oil spill emergencies, as needed.
- A financial mechanism is to be submitted by the Consultants detailing service charges for the reception, treatment and final disposal of wastes by the national reception facilities. The service charges are to be uniform for the entire RSA, and to be covered through various feasible options.



OVERALL CONCLUSION



The overall conclusion of the Feasibility Study is the establishment of a number of national reception facilities through a coordinated regional approach. Each national facility then is to provide services to more than one port and terminal, and to receive wastes from land-based sources, platforms and for oil spill emergencies, if needed. This approach is in line with the logistic and economic calculations made

Another objective of the Study has been the integration of existing reception facilities into the Plan of Implementation. Accordingly, the number of the recommended reception facilities has been decreased to twelve and the total investment reduced to approximately US\$ 68 millions. The annual operating costs for running all reception facilities in the Region is estimated at US\$ 33 millions. However, the future trend and the decrease of the volume of ballast water in the coming years, due to an increase in the number of SBT tankers, have also been fully considered in the Study.

The financing and operation of the reception facilities has been recommended to follow the "Build, Own, Operate - BOO" principle, wherein the operator provides investment and operational financing. The total operation will be financed partly by the value of recovered oil (approximately 50%), and partly by other kinds of funding such as governmental subsidies and/or a uniformly applied reasonable service charges from ships.

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