

ROPME

SEA KAPS



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SECOND RESPONSE OFFICERS MEETING



BAHRAIN, 5th MAY, 2001

INTRODUCTION

This one day meeting came in accordance to the 11th ROPME Council Meeting Decision 15, organizing a Response Officers Meeting to Review Stockpile and elaborate their Role and Duties including Auditing of Equipment. A meeting was convened in Bahrain on the 5th May, 2001.



ATTENDANCE

The Meeting was attended by the Oil Spill Response Officers of Member States, MEMAC Consultant and Professional Staff of MEMAC. The Meeting elected Mr. Ali Abbas Haider from the State of Kuwait as Chairman and Mr. Essa Yateem from the State of Bahrain as Rapporteur.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Meeting was opened at 0900 a.m. on Saturday 5th May 2001, by Captain A.M. Al-Janahi, MEMAC Director on behalf of H. E. Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi, Executive Secretary of ROPME. He welcomed the Response Officers to the Meeting and outlined the main purpose for convening the Meeting.

He emphasized the important role of the Response Officers in executing their duties, where they are facing different challenges and to follow up the first Meeting progress. Further he expressed the importance of the auditing programme which was recommended by the Response Officers at their First Meeting and endorsed by the ROPME Council. He emphasized on the importance of this programme which would be a great assistance for identifying States capacity in combating and in carrying out the normal routine maintenance. He concluded his speech by wishing all the participants a fruitful meeting.

EVALUATE THE READINESS AND CAPABILITY OF MEMAC AND MEMBER STATES WITH REGARD A MAJOR OIL SPILL RESPONSE

MEMAC Director, Captain Al-Janahi, briefed the meeting that MEMAC at this stage works as a Liaison and Co-ordinator carrying out the communication task in case of incidents. Further MEMAC is still carrying out different training courses which enhance the capacity building and familiarize personnel with different task required for oil spill incident.

Member States Response Officers each briefed the Meeting and as follows:

State of Bahrain - Mr. Essa Yateem informed the Meeting that the Committee of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan has discussed the possibilities of incorporating the principal duties of Oil Spill Response Officer.

Another Meeting was held to evaluate the November 99 Oil Spill Exercise and to generally update the plan.

A Special Budget has been allocated for general maintenance of all oil spill equipments and establishing a new storage facility.

State of Kuwait - Mr. Ali Haider informed the Meeting that the Kuwait Contingency Plan has been re-validated with the assistance of MEMAC.

Kuwait Petroleum Corporation has joined the KOCPC recently and they developed their Contingency Plan to cover all Member Companies.

Local and National drill has occurred.

New equipments and material for combating oil spill has been provided by EPA, KOC and Port Authority.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - Mr. Ziad Daghistani informed the Meeting that as for pollution response activities a Committee has been formed for action in case of major oil spills. This Committee consists of officers from various governmental authorities to act as follows:

Phase (I): Surveillance and Monitoring: MEPA will use the financial resources available to make the surveillance which includes:

- Aerial Observation
- Sea Surveillance
- Coastal Surveillance
- Observation reports from military, civil aircrafts and ships.

Phase (2) : Combating: Subject to the specifications agreed upon between MEPA and other relevant organizations, all those organizations who have marine or coastal facilities will undertake combating operations within their areas, outside these areas MEPA and the appropriate department will undertake the cleanup activities.

Sultanate of Oman - Mr. Mahmood Al-Zakwani informed the Meeting that Oman has carried out several evaluations of its readiness to combat oil spills within its borders, and areas of responsibilities including providing equipments and personal assistance if requested by ROPME Member States. It is Oman's top priority, to maintain its oil spill combat vessels, aircrafts and equipments at the highest state of preparedness. Oman's first line of defense is to utilise the countries equipment, which is constantly maintained at the level of one thousand tons of oil spill. Should there be a requirement for more equipment, then a system is in place to request Regional and International assistance.

Further he briefed about the training programme which is carried out in two phases:

- Minor Exercises; A minimum of three exercises a year, carried out by individual agencies, including the Government, the Oil and the Shipping sectors.
- Major Exercise; Is carried out once a year, combining both the Government and the Oil Industries.
- Contingency Plan Exercises; Are carried out by all parties concerned who



have a responsibility to ensure that the plans are exercised and updated at regular intervals.

State of Qatar - Mr. Ali Al-Saigel and Captain Ali R. Ashkanani informed the Meeting that the Supreme Council mandated Qatar Petroleum to take the responsibility for combating any oil spills occurred in the State In and Offshore where the Supreme Council will be the monitoring body. A State Committee has been formed and three meetings have been conducted in order to formulate the National Contingency Plan. Also a procedure for reporting pollution incident has been issued irrespective of their geographical locations.

Further, Mr. Ali Al-Saigel, emphasised on the importance of providing different parties in the State of Qatar with MEMAC Training Courses.

The Meeting then discussed the lack of communication and reporting within the Region and agreed that the Response Officers to contact the Navy, Coast Guard, the International Airport in order of pilot reporting.

PREPARATION FOR OIL POLLUTION COMBATING AUDITING PROGRAMME/SURVEY

The auditing survey programme: Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-Shahri, MEMAC Environmental Consultant briefed the Meeting about the programme as follows:

The objectives of the survey are to :

Comply with the ROPME Council's decision and the MEMAC function Article III(e).



The need to identify and validate the oil spill response resources and capability of each Contracting State.
Highlight the strength and identify the areas that need improvement.

The Scope of the survey covers the following:

Organizations, training/exercises, oil spill equipment and capabilities or spill dispersant applications, oil spill response technologies and the shoreline cleanup.

PREPARATION FOR OIL POLLUTION COMBATING EQUIPMENT MANUAL-REVIEW RECORDS OF TRAINING AND FREQUENCY OF OIL SPILL DRILLS

Captain Al-Janahi briefed the Meeting about MEMAC preparation for publishing a reference for equipment manual and its use. He also emphasized the importance of Response Officers input to this Manual in order of tailoring the Member States requirements. He also introduced the training courses and oil spill drills which were welcomed by the Meeting.

REVIEW AND UPDATE MEMAC OIL SPILL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT DATABASE ALONG WITH THE EQUIPMENT RESOURCES REGIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

The Meeting discussed different international equipment location which can be called during the emergency. MEMAC requested and where all Response Officers agreed to approach oil inventory of stockpile of oil spill equipment in order to utilize all stockpile in the Region before approaching any international

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER STATES

STATE OF BAHRAIN

Mr. Essa A. YATEEM
Mr. Mirza Salman KHALAF

STATE OF KUWAIT

Captain Ali HAIDER

SULTANATE OF OMAN

Mr. Mahmood Mohammed AL-ZAKWANI

STATE OF QATAR

Mr. Ali Jassim AL-SAIGEL
Captain Ali Rajab Al-ASHKANANI

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. Yasser S.D. AL-OTAIBI
Mr. Ziad DAGHISTANI
Mr. Aziz W. AL-OMARI

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

GAOCMAO

Dr. A. T. Shanmugam

UNEP/ROWA

Dr. Mahmood Y. ABDULRAHEEM

OBSERVERS

Rear Admiral Michael STACEY

MEMAC

Captain A. M. AL-JANAHI
Mr. Abdul Rahman Al-SHAHRI
Mr. Yousif ZAINAL
Captain Ali Haji HASAN
Captain Ahmed AL-RASHEED

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