

# Newsletter



## A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN



I would like to start first this address by wishing you and your families a prosperous and healthy new year and welcome you to MOIG Newsletter Issue 035; which will provide you; an overview on MOIG activities of the previous and current year.

Despite the current situation related to COVID-19 pandemic, MOIG remains fully operational. We have been working remotely since the pandemic struck. However, in light of the gradual improvement of the situation in Tunisia and the easing of some restrictions, the MOIG Director returned to work in the office on a regular basis in early May 2020.

We are all aware that 2020 was a difficult year for the global oil and gas industry; especially in the second quarter; when oil prices dropped significantly; due to COVID-19 pandemic. For this purpose, the Management Committee has taken into consideration the particular situation of the last year and took a responsible decision; consisting in offering members a free one year membership; that means the membership 2020 will be valid until 31 December 2021.

COVID-19 pandemic posed also major challenges for our Group; due to restrictions on organizing events and travel. Indeed, the two main events planned for the last year have been regrettably postponed to this year. The first one was the training course on “Oil Spill Waste Management”; to take place in Tunis-Tunisia; in cooperation with Cedre and REMPEC. The second one was the regional workshop titled “Enhancing Oil Spill Preparedness and Response in the Adriatic and Mediterranean Regions”; excepted to occur in Opatija-Croatia; in cooperation with ATRAC and JANAF. However, the MOIG Director is in continuous contact with members and technical partners exploring ways to set new dates for these events, depending on their availability and the evolution of situation related to Covid-19 pandemic. I want to thank all of you for your understanding and patience during these exceptional circumstances. MOIG will provide you up-to-date information on these events in the near future.

2020 was marked by our active participation in many webinars and workshops, particularly during the fourth quarter. We also completed; early last year; the second draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); in respect of Mutual Aid Agreement in the Control of Marine Pollution Events Level 2. On the other hand, the postponement of 2020 activities presented an opportunity to launch the revamping of MOIG website proving our continuous efforts on innovation and improvements to maintain a user-friendly, dynamic and interactive website.

For 2021, we will start with great deal of enthusiasm and optimism, ready to make all our efforts to further enhance oil spill preparedness and response in the region. In this regards, in conjunction with the two regional workshops, MOIG is scheduling to organize a one-day training session on Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS); during the first semester of 2021; in cooperation with the National Agency of Environment Protection (ANPE).

I want to conclude my word by announcing that MOIG will celebrate this year its twenty-ninth anniversary of service to Mediterranean oil and gas sector. MOIG was initiated in 1992, we have accomplished much over that span, and we are more excited about the next 29 years and what the future may hold. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members and technical partners for their continuous support, trust and confidence in MOIG. We could not have done it without you! Stay safe and healthy.

Mahmoud Abdussalm Kamour - MOIG Chairman



## MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

06 January 2020, MOIG has completed writing the second draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); in respect of Mutual Aid Agreement in the Control of Marine Pollution Events Level 2. This MoU was initiated following to recommendations made by the working group during the National workshop and the meeting on coordination, respectively held on 12 July and 26 September 2018; in Tunis-Tunisia.



This MoU is an appropriate alternative solution to the creation of Tier 2 coordination center project; initiated by the Tunisian Company of Petroleum Activities (ETAP) and MOIG in 2014.

The main purpose of this MoU is to strengthen cooperation, coordination and mutual assistance among Tunisian oil and gas sector on preparedness and response to oil spill incidents level 2.

The document is a result of one year work in collaboration with the main key actors in Tunisia. It includes a summary of all comments received from the working group, 23 articles and 08 appendices as forms and lists.

This MoU will allow Member Parties from Tunisian Oil and Gas industry to share and mobilize their resources quickly and effectively in case of oil spill incidents level 2, to promote cooperation and information exchange as well as to organize regular meetings, trainings and joint exercises.

MOIG is planning this year to organize a workshop; that will bring together members and non-members of MOIG as well as the ANPE representative; in order to discuss and exchange views on the second draft, and make necessary recommendations that may help to implement this MoU in practical and effective way.

## WEST MOPOCO NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON RETOS



05 February 2020, the MOIG Director was invited by ANPE to the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil & HNS Pollution Cooperation Project entitled "National Workshop-Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS)", held in Diplomat Hotel in Tunis-Tunisia.

The main objectives of this project were to strengthen cooperation in the field of preparedness for and response to marine pollution, to enhance quality and interoperability of the response capacities in the western Mediterranean region; through the improvement of decision capacity, to evaluate National Oil Spill Contingency Plans and to reinforce synergies between National and Sub-Regional Emergency Response Procedures.

The workshop was animated by the experts of ITOPF and ANPE and gathered about 25 participants from: ANPE, ANGED, APAL, APIP, ETAP, OMMP, ONAS, Ministry of Environment and Local Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Tourism.

The programme included an introduction to the RETOS Tool and presentation of the Tunisian National Oil Spill Contingency Plan. In addition, participants afforded the opportunity to perform a self assessment of the Tunisian Oil Spill contingency Plan according to Level A evaluation.

During this workshop, the MOIG Director conducted preliminary discussions with ANPE representatives; in order to see the possibility to present this tool to MOIG members; in the form of one day training session. Unfortunately, it was not possible to continue these discussions, due to COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on organizing events.

## WEBINAR - MEDEXPOL 2020

27-28 October 2020, the MOIG Director was invited by REMPEC, as observer, to the webinar to enhance regional cooperation in responding to Marine Oil and HNS pollution in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020), held in Malta, via electronic conferencing platform.



The main objectives of this webinar were to provide an overview and discuss the project achievements and innovations, to identify opportunities to enlarge the cooperation between Parties to existing Sub-Regional contingency plans, to examine the project outputs and submit relevant recommendations to the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points.

The agenda included four (04) sessions: Enhancing emergency decision-making capabilities, Mediterranean common emergency communication, emergency procedures and cooperation and assessment of the level of oil spill response planning and readiness management.

This webinar gathered over 70 representatives from the Mediterranean, North Sea and Baltic countries, European Union, Secretaries of the Regional Agreements and REMPEC Technical Partners.

The event provided participants with an overview of the progress on the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation (West MOPoCo) project as well as opportunities to enlarge the cooperation between parties to existing sub-regional contingency plans. The main recommendations of this project will be submitted to 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of REMPEC Focal Points.

## WEBINAR - NO SUCH THING AS A BAD EXERCISE

29 October 2020, the MOIG Director participated to webinar training session titled “No Such Thing As a Bad Exercise” organized by Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL); technical partner; via electronic conferencing platform.

Mr. Lee Barber; Preparedness Solutions Manager from OSRL; presented a series of key learnings gained in the delivery of a number of exercises held around the world over the last 20 years.

He delivered also a presentation of some recent experiences in virtual exercises brought about primarily, as a result of COVID-19 pandemic. The Management Committee would like to thank OSRL for providing this opportunity to learn from its long experience in exercising.



## MEMBERSHIP – MARETAP REJOINED MOIG

02 November 2020, the Management Committee is very delighted to welcome MARETAP; former member rejoining MOIG after a short absence of three years.



MARETAP is the Joint-Venture company between ETAP and ECUMED Petroleum. Its headquarter is based in Tunis-Tunisia and it has Central Facility Production (CPF) and terminal in Ezzaouia field in Zarzis; located in the South-East of Tunisia. Its main activities are exploration and production of oil and gas. Regarding its response capability, MARETAP has a Tier 1 Oil Spill Response Package.

MOIG maintains a solid relationship and has beautiful memories with MARETAP. Indeed, we had carried out together several works over the last five years in Zarzis-Tunisia such as Zarzis Tier 2 Oil Spill Response Exercise, Oiled Shoreline Survey and Cleanup as well as the Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Audit. The Management Committee would like to thank MARETAP for its confidence in MOIG.

## WEBINAR – VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE

05 November 2020, the MOIG Director participated to Webinar on “Volunteer Management in Oil Spill Response” organized by Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), via electronic conferencing platform.

Mr. Chris Miles; Principal Trainer from OSRL; delivered a presentation including a Volunteer Management scheme, selection of individuals and management of the process during oil spill response. He also explained the reasons why it is advisable for oil companies to consider a Volunteer Plan as part of their preparedness for oil spills.



## NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER



26 November 2020, the Management Committee is very delighted to welcome Rached Hachemi who’s the new ETAP representative in MOIG Management Committee, instead of Moncef Saidi. Rached is currently the Central Production Director at ETAP. The Management Committee would like to thank Moncef Saidi for his support and efforts towards the MOIG over the past three years and wish him the best of success in his future career.

## TUNISIAN OIL AND GAS SUMMIT WEBINAR 2020

16 December 2020, the MOIG Director was invited by the Steering Committee of Tunisian Oil Gas Summit (TOGS) to a Virtual Town Hall entitled "Ways Forward to Reshape Tunisia Energy Model Post COVID-19", via electronic conferencing platform.

This webinar was moderated by Dr. Carole Nakhle, CEO of Crystal Energy and Mr. Zied Chibani, Senior Well Engineer at PDO Oman. The agenda focused on the Support Structured & Sustainable Energy Transformation for Tunisia (2030–2040–2050). It includes a welcoming address, celebration of 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TOGS summary video (2011–2020) and six (06) main sessions; which are the following ones:



- Session 1 : Introduction, presented by Mr. Zied Chibani
- Session 2 : Global Energy Perspectives, presented by Mr. Kamel Ben Naceur, CEO of NOMADIA ENERGY
- Session 3 : Scenarios for Energy Supply and Demand at the Global Level, presented by Dr. Houada ben Jannet; General Director of the Mediterranean Energy Observatory (OME)
- Session 4 : Current Tunisian Energy Context & Governance, presented by Mr. Rachid Ben Daly, General Director of Hydrocarbons in the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines
- Session 5: Role of Civil Society, How Can it Help, presented by Mr. Hichem Mansour, CEO of Al-Hosn Energy Consulting
- Session 6 : Top Recommendations for Defining a Sustainable Pathway for Tunisia’s Energy Sector

The event gathered many participants from all over the world and was a good opportunity to share information and expertise on several topics such as Future and renewable energies, reference and proactive scenarios considered for the Mediterranean region, primary demand and resources, evolution of energy deficit in Tunisia, similarities of the Tunisian case with Hungary, Portugal and New Zealand countries in the field of improving energy security. The Management Committee would like to thank TOGS Steering Committee for its kind invitation.

## MEETING ANPE – MOIG ABOUT RETOS

12 December 2020, a successful meeting was held in the headquarter of the National Agency of Environment Protection (ANPE) in Tunis-Tunisia; between Mr. Samir Khedhira; General Controller Expert and REMPEC Focal Point and Houcine Mejri; MOIG Director.

The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss the possibility to organize a joint workshop in the form of one-day training session on Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS); during the first semester of 2021.



RETOS is a part of the Western Mediterranean Region Marine Oil and HNS Pollution Cooperation (West MOPoCo) project; initiated in 2019.

The West MOPoCo Project supports Algeria, France, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia; in collaboration with Monaco in strengthening their cooperation; in the field of preparedness for and response to oil and Highly Noxious Substances (HNS) marine pollution and in improving the quality and interoperability of their response capacities.

The project is implemented through an inter-regional effort, including the participation of the Regional Marine Pollution

Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), the Bonn Agreement for the North Sea and the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM) for the Baltic Sea. The project benefits from the technical support of expert partner institutions such as Cedre, ITOPF and the Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA).

West MOPoCo is two-year project (2019-2020) co-financed by the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism of DG ECHO. Nevertheless, issues related to COVID-19 pandemic have slowed down the progress of the project. The completion date is scheduled now for the end of April 2021.

We were very delighted with the outcome of this meeting; the ANPE representative expressed its full support to provide a training session on RETOS for MOIG members. This training will be a good opportunity for members to know how to assess their Oil Spill Contingency Plans, to identify gaps and undertake the necessary corrective actions.

This workshop will further strengthen relationship and cooperation between MOIG and ANPE as well as advance issues of common interest related to protection of the Mediterranean Sea against oil spill pollution. More details on this training will be provided to you in the near future. The Management Committee would like to thank ANPE for agreeing to provide technical support to MOIG.

## NOC DELEGATION VISIT TO MOIG

A delegation composed of MM. Mohamed Abugsesa Elghadefi and Mohamed Adbeib, supervisors at HSE Department at National Oil Corporation Libya (NOC), member; will be MOIG guests during the next few days.



NOC is carrying out exploration and production operations through its own affiliated companies, or in participation with other companies under service contracts or any other kind of petroleum investment agreements. NOC and its affiliated oil companies holding number of oil terminals along the southern coast of the Mediterranean covering 2000 Km long.

MOIG has established good relationships with NOC and greatly appreciate its continuous support over the last past years. The main purpose of this visit is to present future MOIG activities and explore the possibility to further enhance cooperation between the two institutions; in conducting a several programs that MOIG started implementing in the past.