

## Mediterranean Oil Industry Group for Oil Spill Response

### A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to start this address by wishing you and your families a happy New Year. You might be under the impression that not much happened during 2003 as far as MOIG is concerned. It is precisely the opposite! Our colleague, friend and former Chairman, André Lamy, clearly stated what was going to happen in his last newsletter. I am happy to announce that thanks to a great team effort, we are now ready to present the formally organised MOIG.

Indeed, 2003 was the year of major achievements: the writing of the final governing documents, the signature of the "Accord de Siège" on July the 2nd by Tunisian authorities and the appointment and installation of our Director, Mr. Ridha Dhaoui in the new MOIG premises in close collaboration and with the financial support of ETAP. Important organizational meetings occurred over the period.

The first Management Committee Meeting was held on the 12th September 2003 in Tunis with ratification of the Constitution and Rules, preparation of the 2004 Business Plan and my nomination as your Acting Chairman until the next AGM. It is worth mentioning that the IPIECA Oil Spill Working Group Project Manager, Mr. Rob Cox issued a report on status and needs of MOIG, prior to the Management Committee meeting, which was of great use.

IPIECA's support was key to the proper organization of the MOIG Opening and I thank very much Mr. Chris Morris, General Secretary and all his staff for the continuous support.

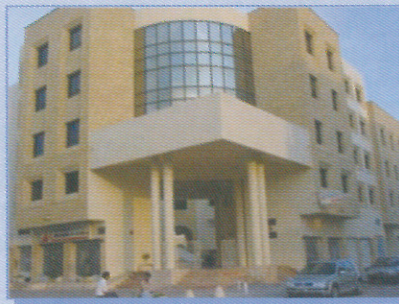
Nevertheless it has to be emphasized that from the next AGM, on the 29th of January, MOIG will have to stand on its own. It is crucial for members to understand that we are entering a key year. It is very clear from our bank account, that, without the support of the existing members and the joining of new members, the future of MOIG could quickly be compromised. As per the members requirements, the MOIG has evolved from an informal group to a registered professional association which is in close relationship with the IMO-UNEP RAC, REMPEC.

The potential for growth and achievements is there, it will not be done without the members' input and support. I do believe that the MOIG Opening will be a success, I do hope that thanks to team effort and the will of the members, it will be the start of a long life of respected, professional group of people dedicated to the protection of the fragile Mediterranean Sea.

deliverables oriented, dedicated to the protection of the fragile Mediterranean Sea.

See you in Tunis!

### MOIG Secretariat established in Tunisia, with full support of ETAP



The Grand Opening of the MOIG will take place 27-29 January, 2004 at Abou Nawas Gammarth Hotel, La Marsa, near Tunis

Par décret n° 2003-1636 du 2 juillet 2003.  
Le « Groupe Méditerranéen des Industries Pétrolières »  
est autorisé à s'installer en Tunisie et à établir le siège de  
son secrétariat permanent à Tunis.

بمقتضى أمر عدد 1636 لسنة 2003 مؤرخ في 2 جويلية 2003.  
يرخص "المجموعة المتوسطية للصناعات البترولية" في الانتصاب  
بالبلاد التونسية وتركيز مقر أمانتها الدائمة بتونس العاصمة.

### MOIG OBJECTIVES

- to promote regional cooperation within the industry and between governments and industry by creating a regional network of industry oil spill response coordinators in all Mediterranean countries.
- to enhance preparedness and response to oil spill incidents in the Mediterranean region by acting as a regional forum for information exchange and discussion on oil spill matters and by making best use of industry resources of equipment and expertise for education and training.



### MOIG welcomes new Director, Ridha Dhaoui



"Dear Members

It is with great pride, and a sense of great responsibility, that I announce the opening of the MOIG office in Tunis, and take up the post of MOIG Director. In doing so, I would like to acknowledge the support, vision, and financial contribution of both ETAP and the MOIG members. Without this support and encouragement, and your confidence in this office, we would not have succeeded in establishing this key centre in the Mediterranean region. I look forward to working closely with you all in the coming years."

was organised by CEDRE, with the financial support of the European Commission. The workshop took place in Toulon, France, 2-4<sup>th</sup> October 2003. Considering the recommendations of the Meetings of REMPEC Focal Points that regional training activities should focus on specific, advanced topics and bearing in mind the recommendations of the Contracting Parties related to monitoring of illicit discharges and aerial surveillance, REMPEC decided that it would be a good opportunity to merge MEDIPOL 2003 with the said European Workshop.

The Workshop-MEDIPOL 2003 was particularly intended for operational staff from authorities in charge of pollution control who have been designated to play a role related to surveillance and monitoring activities (detection of illicit oil discharges at sea), gathering of evidence and prosecution of offenders.



MEDIPOL 2003 delegates

## TRAINING COURSES / SEMINARS

### MEDIPOL 2002, MALTA

REMPEC organised a Regional Seminar on response to oil and chemical spills for Government Administrators and Senior Managers, MEDIPOL 2002, which was convened in Malta from 29<sup>th</sup> October-2<sup>nd</sup> November 2002. The objectives of the Seminar were to provide the participants with updated information on various aspects of response to accidental marine pollution by oil and other harmful substances. It included in particular the management and strategy of response options, the legal and financial aspects of environmental consequences of response to marine pollution incidents as well as dealing with media in case of such incidents.

### EUROPEAN WORKSHOP ON SATELLITE IMAGERY AND ILLICIT OIL SPILLS IN EUROPE AND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN - MEDIPOL 2003

A "European Workshop on Satellite Imagery and Illicit Oil Spills in Europe and the Mediterranean"

### NATIONAL SEMINAR ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND SENIOR MANAGERS, ALBANIA

A national seminar for government administrators and senior managers concerning preparedness and response to marine oil spills was held in Durrës, Albania, between 24 – 26 November 2003. It was aimed at senior administrators within the Albanian administration concerned with responsibilities related to marine pollution preparedness and response as well as senior managers in the oil sector and shipping/port industries. It should be noted that between 1997 and 2001, due to the prevailing political situation in the country and in the Balkan region in general, no requests for follow up activities had been received by the competent national authorities, and consequently no additional activities had been planned and implemented by REMPEC during the said period. This seminar therefore represents a good restarting point towards the improvement of



the level of awareness and preparation of the Albanian national authorities in the field of preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution.

## REMPEC ACTIVITIES

Among the activities carried out by REMPEC since April 2002, the most important ones are:

### WORKSHOPS / PROJECTS

#### 6<sup>TH</sup> REMPEC FOCAL POINTS MEETING, MALTA, 12-15 FEB '03

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points, which took place in Malta between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> February 2003, presented a draft strategy to be discussed later on by the 1<sup>st</sup> National Experts Meeting for the preparation of the strategy for the implementation of the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol, scheduled in May 2004. Once adopted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, the strategy will set the goals to be achieved by the Mediterranean coastal States in the implementation of the new Protocol for the next 10-15 years, as well as identify the actions to be carried out both by the States and the REMPEC in order to attain these objectives.

#### COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES MEETING, MALTA, 27-28 FEB '03

The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the competent national authorities of Croatia, Italy and Slovenia for the development of a sub-regional contingency plan for the Northern Adriatic was convened in Malta on 27 and 28 February 2003. All three national delegations expressed their commitment to take concrete steps towards development and implementation of the future sub-regional contingency plan.



REMPEC offices

#### CASABLANCA MEETING, JULY 2003

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the competent national authorities of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia was held in Casablanca on 3-4 July 2003. The Meeting was dedicated to the finalisation of the text for the sub-regional contingency plan and of the legal instrument for its implementation.

The Meeting was organised in accordance with the project of development of a sub-regional system of preparedness for and response to accidental pollution in the South-West Mediterranean, which is conducted by REMPEC and financed by the Technical Co-operation Division of IMO.

#### LIFE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, JULY 2003

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the LIFE Third Countries Project for the development of the national system for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution in the Syrian Arab Republic was held in Damascus, Syria, on 9-10 July 2003. The Meeting agreed that sensitivity mapping and spill response training activities be carried on.

#### NATIONAL TRAINING COURSE, JULY 2003, BANIAS, SYRIA

On 21-24 July 2003, a National Training Course on "Spill Response Techniques for Response Personnel" was held in Baniyas, Syria.

#### REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MARPOL 73/78 ANNEX I

From 11-13 December 2003, REMPEC organised in Malta a Regional Workshop on the Implementation of MARPOL 73/78 Annex I in the Mediterranean, within the framework of both the New Prevention and Emergency Protocol and the Catania Declaration. Representatives of 20 Mediterranean Coastal States, the European Commission as well as experts and members of International Organizations attended the Workshop, which aimed at discussing at a regional level on the legal, administrative, technical and operational aspects related to the implementation and enforcement of MARPOL 73/78 Annex I, so as to facilitate such a process by means of a strong co-operation among the Mediterranean countries.



## MOIG / REMPEC COLLABORATION

MOIG acting Chairman, Eric Calonne and Ridha Dhaoui, MOIG Director went to Malta in December 2003, in order to prepare the MOIG Opening and meet with REMPEC staff. This was also the opportunity to conduct a series of presentations to potential and existing MOIG members in Malta, this latter action being crucial for the future financial sustainability of the MOIG as explained in the Business Plan distributed to members.

Independent on Sunday ■ 14 December 2003 ■ 9

### Major oil pollution would bring us to a standstill, Transport Minister warns

By staff reporter

A major oil spill off the Maltese coast will definitely bring the country to a standstill, Transport Minister Censu Galea said yesterday.

Speaking at the end of a workshop about new maritime safety initiatives for the Mediterranean organised by the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (REMPEC), Mr Galea said Malta's dependency on the sea meant that a major pollution disaster would put the whole country in crisis.

While Malta has upgraded its maritime facilities for the handling of all types of cargo and passengers, ship repair and bunkering, there is also awareness that such developments pose inherent risks to other sectors, the minister said.

"It is important to bear in mind that Malta depends on the waters of the Mediterranean for its water supply, fish and fish farming industry, cooling of power stations, and recreational facilities," Mr Galea said. "Therefore we can easily say that a major oil pollution casualty close to Malta's shores would definitely bring us to a standstill."

Located as it is in the middle of the Mediterranean, it is well known that the majority of oil tankers passing between Malta and Sicily are often the major polluters because of their illegal oil dumping on the high seas.

"The recent shipping casualties which occurred on the west coast of Europe raises the spectre of a similar disaster occurring in the Mediterranean, the impact of which would be even more disastrous, particularly in view of it being an almost closed sea," Mr Galea said.

The Minister commented positively on upcoming EU regulations aimed at stepping up surveillance of vessel traffic in the Mediterranean and ensuring better safety standards.

This article from the Malta Independent, 14.12.03, was picked up during the MOIG mission in Malta

Visits to companies included : Alpha Oil Services & Trading Ltd, the Director of which, Mr. Paul Pisani, was nominated MOIG Focal point for Malta, Enemalta, Mediterranean Offshore Bunkering Co Ltd, Falzon Group of Companies, San Lucian Oil Company Ltd (an El Paso affiliate) and Oil Tanking. It should be noted that there is no issue about the commercial size of a member and that interest in membership and willingness to work

together are the key points to ensure mutual benefit.

In addition, a meeting between REMPEC, represented by Rear Admiral Roberto Patrino, Director, and François Leotoing, Junior Programme Officer, and MOIG, represented by Eric Calonne, Chairman, and Ridha Dhaoui, Director, took place at the premises of REMPEC on Manoel Island, Malta on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2003. The main point of discussion was future collaboration between these two organisations. MOIG and REMPEC agreed upon focusing on three major fields of co-operation:

- **Co-ordination of joint exercises and training activities**

In September or October 2004, REMPEC will organise an exercise in Genoa, Italy. The idea is to involve all partners, i.e. National Authorities, Regional Organizations, as well as the oil industry with the support of MOIG.

MOIG will also support training at a sub-regional level by promoting lectures in Arabic for the benefit of the southern and eastern Mediterranean Arabic countries, and by facilitating standardisation of Arabic vocabulary in the antipollution field. Emphasis will also be put on the "training of trainers", so the global initiatives can be applied in a practical way at national and local levels.

- **Databases of equipment and resources**

MOIG and REMPEC underlined the need for compiling a reliable list of equipment and resources available in the region. They agreed on the fact that MOIG may manage such databases, however both parties were of the opinion that the responsibility to feed these databases should rest with the countries themselves, in accordance with the spirit of regional co-operation.

- **Sensitivity mapping**

MOIG will be invited to participate in the meeting concerning sensitivity mapping activities that REMPEC is planning to convene in the beginning of spring 2004. The objective of this initiative is to standardise the general approach to sensitivity mapping in order to eventually constitute a Mediterranean Atlas by developing maps area by area.



## INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL CONFERENCE

IPIECA attended the International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) in Vancouver, Canada, 6-10 April 2003, the first outside the USA. IPIECA was well represented in issue paper presentations and discussions (by Chris Morris, General Secretary), at the exhibition area (the IPIECA booth was manned by Paula Lynch) in panel discussions, hosting of a new training tool "Exercise Clean Seas" short course and an entry in the film festival. At the exhibition area, UNEP-WCMC representative Phill Fox gave visitors interactive demonstrations of the IMapS system, including the Mediterranean region.



A Task Force, manned by IPIECA's Oil Spill Working Group members is in place preparing for the next IOSC, which will take place in Miami, Florida in 2005. The theme for IOSC 2005 is "Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration: Raising Global Standards". Ensuring an international attendance to this conference is a success factor for IPIECA, **MOIG members are encouraged to attend and to optimize this unique networking opportunity.** In addition the possibility to present a paper regarding MOIG activities and its future will be considered at the next MOIG meeting.

## Forthcoming Regional Workshop

PERSGA, in co-operation with IMO, is organising a workshop for senior governments representatives and technicians to address the implementation of the part 2 of their Strategic Action Programme "Reduction of Navigation Risk and Marine Pollution".

The workshop will be held at the Arab Academy, Alexandria, 22-26 February 2004 and the oil industry has been approached within the framework of the IMO/IPIECA Global Initiative to actively participate in this event.

The objectives of this workshop are as follows:

- To make regional Government personnel at a senior level aware of the importance of implementing the Action Plan and thus generate support from regional Governments;
- To emphasize the importance of regional states ratifying key IMO Conventions relating to contingency planning and explain the requirements so that these Conventions can be ratified;
- To mobilize oil industry support for implementation of the Action Plan;
- To train technical personnel from the region responsible for national contingency plans in the structure and contents of national contingency plans, and in updating their plans.
- **MOIG members involved in that region are encouraged to attend. The MOIG Secretariat in co-operation with IPIECA will provide inputs and establish links with PERSGA.**

---

For further information or to make contributions to forthcoming issues of this Newsletter, please contact:

Ridha Dhaoui, MOIG Chairman  
Mediterranean Oil Industry Group, B2.2 Résidence Dar Maghreb, Berges du lac 1053 Tunis, Tunisia  
Tel: + 2167 196 5359 fax: +2167 196 5192  
Email: dhaoui.moig@planet.tn

Visit the MOIG website at [www.moig.org](http://www.moig.org)



# MOIG MEMBERS



## OIL EGYPTIAN ASSOCIATION PIEPC



Ocean Egypt Companies



leoc

