



1. Situation update.

On 27 August the MPAC team / OSOCC participated in a meeting with experts from Germany and France. The purpose of the meeting was to give the experts updated information on the oil spill recovery operation.

An aerial survey was carried out on 28 August out off the coast from the Jiye power station in the south to Tripoli in the north. At 10.31 there was departure from Beirut Airport with an Italian Helicopter. On board:

- Elo Jacobsen, MIC expert from Denmark – Team Leader
- Georges Peigne, France
- Dr. Samib Wehbe, Lebanon
- Mr Hady, Lebanon, Photographer.

During this flight only a few slicks of free oil were seen in the water. These slicks were located in previously defined confined areas. On most of the beaches, rocks, seawalls etc. there were traces of oil. Most of this oil will need to be cleaned with the use of hand held tools and a large number of people. The assessment of the team is that the oil in Fisherman's Wharf is recoverable.

Preliminary conclusions of the aerial survey:

1. There was no oil leaking from the power plant at Jiye.
2. There was no larger oil spills observed at sea.
3. No recoverable oil slicks were observed at sea.
4. Oil was observed almost along the entire coast, but there were exceptions, where either the oil had not been, or the oil had already been collected.

Another MPAC assessment trip assessed the shoreline, going south from Beirut. This trip was carried out by one of the MIC experts with experts from Sweden, Germany and France. They assessed beaches and harbours from Fishermen's Wharf in the north, to the Jiye power station in the south. The result of this assessment mostly confirmed what was seen from the air. The following sites were assessed: Fishermans Wharf, Ramleh Baida, Jyeh Power Plant, Rmaileh and Damour. In addition a number of small sites, such as sandy beaches, rocks and pebbles were also inspected.

The conclusion after this MPAC assessment is:

- There are no further leaks from the Power Plant. There is an amount of oil in between the rocks and, when mixed with water, it creates a thin layer on top of the water. There are no signs of big amounts of floating collectable oil.
- The sites visited from Jyeh to Beirut show amounts of oil which are collectable. Mostly these have to be handled "by hand tools" or construction machines (excavator, bulldozer ie.) when possible.
- Some places have already been cleaned by local people without coordination with the Ministry of Environment (MoE).

Conclusion on the assessment is that a great part of the shoreline needs to be cleaned. Most of the cleaning will have to be done by hand held tools and manpower.

2. Update on offered assistance.

Two Swedish, three German and eight French experts arrived on 27 August. The equipment from France (provided through REMPEC) is due to arrive on 29 August.

3. Request for assistance.

The request for a specialised aircraft for in-depth analysis as specified by the MIC message 12 remains open.

Member States are invited to inform the MIC if they have available aircraft

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