



## 1. SITUATION UPDATE

The MIC MPAC team reports in their sitrep of 29 September that virtually all free oil at sea or in the harbours and marinas has been recovered. Only very small quantities of free oil are left to be recovered. The oil pollution is not expected to spread further. This means that the immediate emergency phase is over, although some of the specific requests have still not been covered.

**The MIC operation therefore will be closed on 30 September.**

The further management of the oil spill will be dealt with by the OSOCC. Contact person is Mr Darko Domovic from IMO (tel +961 70 91 29 36, e-mail: [rempeclebanon@rempec.org](mailto:rempeclebanon@rempec.org)). On the Lebanese side, the contact person will be Sabine Ghofn from the Ministry of the Environment (+961 374017; e-mail: [s.ghofn@moe.gov.lb](mailto:s.ghofn@moe.gov.lb)).

## 2. EU & INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

During the three weeks that MIC MPAC Team C has been in Lebanon, the Spanish equipment has arrived. The Cypriot equipment (absorbent booms and one high pressure cleaner) has been shipped from Cyprus and is expected to arrive today. The equipment is needed and will be used when cleaning of the oil coated rocks and piers start. The Finnish equipment is expected to arrive in 2-3 days and will be delivered to a Lebanese Navy base. The MIC MPAC team has invested significant efforts to keep the request lists updated and prioritised.

In order to facilitate the hand-over process, the MIC MPAC team on site is preparing a complete inventory of the assistance provided to Lebanon to be given to the OSOCC and the Lebanese authorities. Once available, the MIC will share the list with Member States. The documentation will also be uploaded on CECIS for further consultation. The MIC MPAC team points out in their report that the speed of the response has been an essential element for the success of the operation. An early deployment of MIC experts also contributed to the effective management of the emergency.

The establishment of an OSOCC has been decisive in handling the oil spill. The OSOCC has been until now, and will also be in the future, absolutely necessary to ensure effective coordination between the Lebanese Government and the various international and national partners on site. The necessity of an OSOCC has been recognised by the Lebanese authorities.

The security situation in Beirut has been stable over the last three weeks, and the work of the MIC MPAC team has not in any way been hampered because of security issues.

As regards the MIC, the total duration of the operation totalled 68 days, counting from the pre-alert message sent out to Member States by the MIC on 25 July until 30 September. Both, the pre-alert and the official request from the Lebanese Government received on 27 July were processed to Member States within 90 minutes. In total, 22 MIC Messages were produced on the basis of 53 situation reports received from the three oil spill expert teams deployed through the Mechanism. The MIC had also triggered the Satellite Charter.

**The MIC would like to express its deepest gratitude to all persons and institutions involved in this operation.**

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