



Civil Protection Mechanism expert team on site

The MIC oil pollution expert team consisting of Peter KRAGH, Henrik VANG CHRISTENSEN and Jack BRANDT JOERGENSEN has arrived in Lebanon and are fully operational. They have set up office in the EC delegation in Beirut. The team will assist Lebanon in planning and executing the plan for the oil pollution clean up including setting up training activities for Lebanese voluntary helpers.

Situation update

The expert team met with the Lebanese Ministry of Environment on Tuesday afternoon. The main topic was the need is for operational and technical assistance to deal with the spills that are now contained/trapped in harbours along the coast (see attached photographs). This urgent need is due to the expected change in current that normally occurs at the end of August. A change of current could take some of this oil out to sea and it would possibly spread and thus pollute more of the coastline. The spill is still of relatively low viscosity and thus pumpable/skimmeable.

JRC Info 5 is attached for information.

The request for assistance in MIC Message 3 is still valid

Assistance offered so far

Norway has offered nine metric tonnes of material assistance free of charge and it has been accepted by the Lebanese authorities. The Lebanese authorities are in close contact with the MIC and have facilitated the delivery of the equipment to Latakia, Syria, for further transportation by road to Beirut during the weekend.

Coordination at regional and international level

The MIC remains in close contact with the joint UNEP-OCHA Environmental Unit, with REMPEC, IMO and EMSA. The reports from the experts on site are shared with these organisations.

The MIC invites the countries participating in the Community Civil Protection Mechanism to inform the MIC about the assistance they could make available, including financial arrangements.

Request for assistance: yes no; future request: probable not yet known
Type of assistance material intervention team expert or assessment team

This message is followed by 2 attachments

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