



**European Commission  
Civil Protection Co-operation Mechanism**

**Request for assistance**

**Message No. 9**

**Situation update**

On the 14 August the MIC team lead a very successful training and exercise session on the Norwegian oil spill equipment at the Beirut Naval Base. The session was attended by staff from the Lebanese Navy, the Ministry for Environment (MoE) and the Civil Defence. The team are confident that the trained personnel will be able to handle the boats and equipment in the coming clean up operations. The boat and the equipment (skimmers, power packs and pumps) are now operational.

The first clean-up operation was conducted today, 15 August, at Jbail (Byblos) harbour, some 35 km North of Beirut, in cooperation between the Lebanese Navy, the civil defence, the Municipality of Jbail and the MoE. The participating personnel worked very effectively and the training has paid off very well. They managed to place booms in the harbour and recover app. 8 tons of oil with one skimmer unit. The oil is now contained in an on-site storage tank. (See attached pictures).

During the operation in Jbail the MIC team had the opportunity to go with the civil defence at sea outside the harbour. The team located some floating oil slicks (Jbail is located approx. 55 km from the origin of the spill in Jiye). The slicks were about 100-200m long and 20m wide and consisting of a thin oil layer. It is however impossible to estimate the exact size of the slicks and the amount of oil floating near the coast line and at high sea (see attached pictures).

The Lebanese authorities will continue the clean-up operation in Jbail tomorrow 16 August. Vacuum trucks will be arranged to collect the recovered oil from the storage tanks and bring it to a disposal area.

**Offered assistance**

<b>Country/ Organisation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Transport</b>
<b>Norway</b>	oil spill equipment	Delivered	via Syria (Latikia)
<b>Denmark</b>	marine pollution experts	Dispatched	via Cyprus (Larnaca)
<b>Greece</b>	naval transport for NO equipment	Not necessary	via Cyprus
<b>Cyprus</b>	list of specialised registered	Provided	-

Country/ Organisation	Description	Status	Transport
	companies		
<b>Ireland</b>	booms	Offered	not specified
<b>UK</b>	list of specialised registered private companies which could be involved in the response operation	Offered	not specified
<b>Sweden</b>	oil pollution experts, beach-cleaning equipment	Offered	not specified
<b>Italy</b>	naval means and de-pollution equipment	Offered	not specified
<b>Spain</b>	Rubber boots and shovels	Offered	not specified

In addition to the assistance offered by the various countries, the **European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)** is offering to provide experts on oil pollution response activities, in particular on oil recovery at sea, organisation of oil spill response actions and for facilitating the work with satellite images and technical assessment.

### **Renewed request for assistance**

#### **1) Request for equipment, excluding equipment for high sea operations:**

This list is made by the MIC expert team in Beirut, in coordination with the Ministry of the Environment (MoE). It is based on the site survey made by the MoE and the MIC team assessments.

The Navy can provide 10 teams of approximately 8 persons, to handle the more advanced/technical equipment. Furthermore the MoE expects a large number of volunteers to conduct the more manual beach cleaning operations.

The numbers - regarding personnel protection gear - depend on the length of the operation. We estimate that each member of a team use one set of protection gear (rubber boots, gloves, paper suits and/or waders) per working day.

Rubber boots (pair)	4000
Gloves (pair)	4000
Waders	4000
Paper suits	4000
Skimmers (incl. pumps, hoses and power packs)	4
Reservoir (storing facilities)	100
Hand tools for beach and rock cleaning (set)	500
Shovels	500
Booms (meter) with matching equipment	2500
Pumps (for handling recovered oil)	10
High pressure cleaners (for hot water)	20
Sand cleaning machines	2
Rock cleaner	2

If possible, oil spill response equipment should be sent directly to Beirut in order to avoid transport and security problems.

2) **Advice** on the use of oiled pebbles taken from the beaches: Could they be used at a later stage for road construction?

The MIC invites the countries participating in the Community Civil Protection Mechanism to inform the MIC about the assistance (**type, quantity** and **transport** arrangements) they could make available.

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

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