



Annex VIII

MedCGFF closing remarks



MCGFF 2013 PLENARY CONCLUSIONS

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VERY GOOD MORNING.

AFTER THE INTENSE WORK SESSIONS OF THESE DAYS, THIS THIRD EDITION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD FORUM IS FINISHING TODAY .

THE MOST REPEATED MESSAGE WE HAVE LISTENED FROM OUR SPEAKERS IS THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AS A FACTOR OF COHESION, A TERRITORY OF COOPERATION AND MEETING SPACE BETWEEN PEOPLE, CULTURES AND ACTIVITIES .

THE EXTENSION OF OUR SEA AND LENGTH OF ITS COSTS ARE INDISPUTABLE . BUT IF THESE FIGURES FOR GEOGRAPHIC AND



DEMOGRAPHIC WERE NOT ENOUGH, THE SIZE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPED IN THIS AREA CAN PROVIDE THE BEST IDEA OF THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT WE HAVE HISTORICALLY CALLED MARE NOSTRUM.

APPROXIMATELY THE 25 % OF WORLD OIL TRAFFIC AND 30 % OF GLOBAL MARITIME TRADE GO THROUGH MEDITERRANEAN WATERS; PORT INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK IS ESTIMATED AT OVER 450 TERMINALS WHICH ARE AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT PORTS OF THE WORLD AND ALMOST HALF THE FISHING FLEET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION , MAINLY THE COASTAL AND CRAFT , DEVELOP THEIR BUSINESS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

THIS IS ALSO AN AREA THAT FAR FROM DISTANCING PEOPLE, IT CREATES A COMMON AND SHARED SPACE TO CLOSE LINKS BETWEEN EACH OTHER.

HOWEVER, THE FEATURES OF THIS MARINE SPACE SUFFER FROM VARIOUS THREATS AND RISKS. TERRORISM , WHICH AFFECTS PEOPLE , TRANSPORTATION , INFRASTRUCTURE AND ROUTES , ORGANIZED CRIME , THE MAFIA CRIMINALS WHO TRAFFIC WITH HUMAN BEINGS; THE MARINE POLLUTION, THE EXTREME PRESSURE ON COASTAL PLANNING : THE EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES WE OFFER MEDITERRANEAN , OR POTENTIAL ACTIONS ON NATURAL HERITAGE PLUNDERING OR THE MARINE WRECKS ARE JUST SOME OF THREATS TO WHICH WE FACE .

THEREFORE , THERE SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED THE PREVENTION AND MINIMIZING ACTIOS THAT ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE SECURITY AND PROVIDE A PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ARISING INCIDENTS.



THE EXTENT AND VARIETY OF POSSIBLE OBJECTIVES , AND COMPLEXITY OF POSSIBLE MEASURES TO FORCE MARITIME SECURITY MUST BE PROVIDED FROM A BROAD , THROUGH A MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO ENABLE THE INTERACTION OF VARIOUS AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS RESPONSIBILITIES WITH DIFFERENT SECTORS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED .

THIS MUST MATCH IN HEIGHT WITH THE PLOT LINE THAT HAS GUIDED THIS EDITION OF MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS FORUM : " SECURITY SCENARIO IN THE MEDITERRANEAN : PERSPECTIVE OF COOPERATION FROM BOTH BANKS " .

PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BE CONSTRUED AS THE ONLY WAY TO SUCCESSFULLY ADDRESSING ENABLE IMPORTANT NOW THAT WILL MAKE THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA A SUSTAINABLE AND SECURE ONE.

LET ME GO DEEPER ON THE GUARDIA CIVIL FUNCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SECURITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA .

OUR INSTITUTION SERVING AS AN INTEGRAL WITH POLICE POWERS IN THE TERRITORIAL SEA AND , EXCEPTIONALLY OUT OF THE SAME , IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHING INTERNATIONAL TREATIES IN FORCE , AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH ORDERS OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES JUDGMENTS OR CONCRETE .

AS A PUBLIC SECURITY BODY, WE TACKLE THE ISSUES RELATING TO MARITIME PERSPECTIVE PROJECTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO THE SEA , SO



IT PLAYS SOME OF THE FEATURES OF GUARD , AS CONCEIVED BY THE UNION EUROPEAN WITH LEGAL MANDATE, OR WELL UNDER REACHED AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT BODIES .

BETWEEN OUR ACTIVITIES WE FIND:

- SECURITY THROUGH PREVENTION AGAINST POSSIBLE CRIMINAL ACTS AND PROTECTION AND CUSTODY OF PORTS AND FACILITIES OF AS REQUIRED.
- CONTROL OF FISHERIES AND ACTIONS AGAINST ILLEGAL FISHING, PROTECTING THE SUBMERGED HERITAGE IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES ;
- FIGHT AGAINST THE MARITIME POLLUTION, CONDUCTING POLICE INVESTIGATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLATIONS, IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE SPANISH SOCIETY RESCUE AND MARITIME SAFETY , SASEMAR .
- EXERCISE OF OWN STATE TAX AND FISCAL SHELTER .
- CUSTODY AND MONITORING COSTS AND EXTERNAL BORDERS, KEEPING FULL RESPECT FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONS WITH LEGAL MANDATE .
- DUTIES OF MARITIME POLICE THROUGH PERSECUTION AND SUPPRESSION OF CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST THE PERSONAL EQUITY AND RELATED TO THE USE OF CRAFT ABDUCTION .



- THE PROVISION TO THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES OF OFFENDERS AND EFFECTS OF ALLEGED CRIME OF HAVING KNOWLEDGE , IN JUDICIAL POLICE FUNCTION .

THIS SET OF SKILLS COME UP WHEN FULLY COMBINES AND PLACED IN COMMON WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS, NATIONAL AND MEDITERRANEAN RIPARIAN , AS WE CAN FIND IN THIS ROOM TODAY , THE OBJECT OF OUR SEAS ARE MORE SAFE AND SECURE , TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE TERM. THEREFORE THERE IS IMPERATIVE OF ACHIEVE A COLLABORATION LEAL, FLUENT, FRIENDLY AND EFFICIENT TO POWER UP EFFORTS FOR DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS WITH SKILLS IN MARITIME SAFETY AND ESPECIALLY WITH HAVING YOUR AREA FOR ACTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN .

COLLABORATION WILL HELP TO INCREASE SECURITY IN OUR SEAS THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND COORDINATION WILL REDUCE REACTION TIMES IN OPERATIONS. IT ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCE COSTS THROUGH THE USE OF ECONOMIES OF SCALE TO AVOID UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION.

I WOULD LIKE TO FINISH BY HIGHLIGHTING THE VALUE OF THE "TERMS OF REFERENCE" TO SERVE AS A GENERAL OPERATING RULES OF THIS GROUP , WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE A CONSOLIDATED DOCUMENT FOR THE MEDCGFF.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD FORUM ALSO HELPS THE CONTINUITY OF THIS BODY. THAT IS ENSURED WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF PORTUGAL AS THE HOST CONFERENCE COUNTRY



INTENDED TO BE HELD NEXT YEAR .

FERVENT EXPRESS MY WISH THAT YOU HAVE COVERED ALL EXPECTATIONS THAT BROUGHT AND SET OF IDEAS THAT WE SHARED HERE DONATE TO STRENGTHEN THE STRUCTURES AND LINKS TO GET TO THE MEDITERRANEAN A SAFER SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE .

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TOWARDS , FIRST, THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AS WE HAVE BEEN VERY WARMY WELCOMED IN THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF PALMA DE MALLORCA , UNBEATABLE FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS MEETING .

ALSO I WANT TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE THANKS TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ORGANIZATION , HIGHLIGHTING THE EFFORT DONE BY THE SPANISH ARMADA , A DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUPS , SPEAKERS , AND IN GENERAL , TO ALL ATTENDEES FOR YOUR DEDICATION , INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION .

WITH YOU WISH THAT ALL HAVE A HAPPY JOURNEY BACK TO THEIR HOMES ,

I CLOSE OFFICIALLY THE " III EDITION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS FORUM "

THANK YOU



Annex IX

MedCGFF Working Group I conclusions



MCGFF 2013 CONCLUSIONS WORKSHOP Nº 1 “ILLEGAL TRAFFICS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA”



It is my great privilege to represent here to the participants in the WG1, integrating a great variety of institutions, coastguard services, constabulary organizations and navies of the two sides of the Mediterranean Sea.

To the initiatives and traditional objectives of this coast guard functions forum as the exchange of knowledge and operational experiences, procedures and techniques related to the maritime security, we have

wanted to add the master lines and objectives stated in the keynote speeches given in plenary session last morning. All of them concur within the Integrated Maritime Policy, let´s say:

The threats have no frontiers and we must share efforts to face them.

- To look for mutual understanding.
- To foster the maritime surveillance.
- To develop bilateral cooperation.
- To look for positive conclusions and tangible results.

Paraphrasing the Limasol declaration, where the European Ministers, responsible for the IMP recommended to the Member States “to support maritime surveillance integration focused on a common information



exchange, active and operative in 2020 as an efficient means of protecting UE interests.

I will briefly report on the different speeches given under the working group 1 “illegal traffics in the Mediterranean”:

LtCdr Christos Kontoruchas, from the Hellenic Coastguard Service briefed us on his organizational model, in charge of coastguard functions under a complex environment, with a lot of small islands where distances and reaction times are very short and require a great number of deployment of resources. His detailed analysis regarding threats and potential risks, particularly the illegal immigration in their area of responsibility was especially interesting.

The second speech was about narcotics smuggling (cannabis) by sea in the Mediterranean. It was given by Mr. Miguel Angel Vadillo, from the Fiscal Maritime Service. He detailed a very interesting point, demonstrating the deviation of smuggling routes to the East after having entered into service the new Maritime Surveillance System in the Strait of Gibraltar, thus evolving into new methods, working procedures and type of embarkations used by the smugglers for running longer distances.

Finally, LtCdr Alejandro Cervantes, from the Spanish Navy offered a briefing about the Spanish Navy units capabilities and the Maritime Surveillance Center in Cartagena (Spain), its capabilities and mission assigned.



Annex X

MedCGFF Working Group 2 conclusions



MCGFF 2013 CONCLUSIONS WORKSHOP Nº 2 “FISHERIES CONTROL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA”



First, on behalf of the Secretary General of Fisheries, I want to convey our gratitude to the European Commission and, above all, the Spanish Armada and the Civil Guard , two institutions with which the General Fisheries Secretariat works closely , for organizing of this successful forum .

The Working Group on fisheries control in the Mediterranean has a very clear point :

Mediterranean Sea is inconceivable without the importance of fishing activities it developed . An

importance that goes far beyond the economic sphere the fisheries sector, given the enormous social implications are fishing communities on both sides of the Mediterranean and constitute a clear heritage of this common space. Therefore, to ensure sustainability in the medium and long-term socioeconomic this good is fishing in the Mediterranean, it is essential that we ensure the sustainability of fisheries resources . To do this , control is essential , as is the fight against illegal fishing , which was a problem that we must fight , as it not only threatens our resources , it distorts competition for the vast majority of operators and fishermen who play by the rules , and to ensure the sustainability of resources and therefore their sector.

From this starting point, the Working Group offered the interest of providing



three very different visions of this reality. First, the point of view of cooperation between European agencies to improve control: vision offered by Mr. Chintoan - Uta , by EMSA , which explained the virtues of their joint work with the European Control Fisheries (EFCA) . Second, the perspective of civil society , through Ms. Senni , environmental NGO representative PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS , who illustrated a particular case to combat illegal fishing in the Mediterranean Italian side . Finally, the vision of a national government , through a Spanish fishing inspector , Mr. Vazquez , who reviewed and explained in detail the successful and exemplary procedure developed by Spanish inspection services to monitor, according to international recommendations and Community paradigmatic a fishery in the Mediterranean , and of great commercial value , such as bluefin tuna , which is currently subject to a recovery plan.

The course of the aforementioned interventions, and the discussion and questions later, you can highlight four main conclusions:

One. - The development and use of new technologies in the field of fisheries control is an absolutely crucial to improving both the effectiveness and efficiency of our work in this area . The future of fisheries control goes , no doubt , by the use of new technology , as well as optimization and pooling existing in various maritime fields .

Two . - It is essential to continue to provide strong cooperation and collaboration of different agencies both domestically and internationally , to enhance our strategic and operational capabilities in MCS . Joint deployment plans and sharing capabilities in the Mediterranean fisheries control will result in more comprehensive and efficient.



Three . - The fisheries control and combating illegal, require a high regional and international political commitment . It is clear that a single state can not ensure the sustainability of resources which , by definition , are not static , nor prevent the product individually illegal third countries entering the Community market , if it is open other doors . Therefore it is very important for the EU to regional level the same level of performance for all Member States , and international advocate the application of standards at least as strict as ours .

April . - Such political commitment and the ability to use new technologies and operational resources , must be accompanied by adequate funding . In this regard , it is essential that the EU contribution funds to Member States , the EU fleet and also the Mediterranean , can cope with the challenges that we have raised .



Annex XI

MedCGFF Working Group 3 conclusions



MCGFF 2013 CONCLUSIONS WORKSHOP Nº 3 “SAFETY AT SEA AND FIGHT AGAINST MARINE POLLUTION”



Excellencies,. Admirals and Generals , Mrs and Mr.
Good morning ,

First we do not want to start these conclusions without congratulating the excellent organization of this forum conducted by the Navy And Spanish Civil Guard and thank you for your invitation to it.

Of course , also like to congratulate all the speakers and in particular the who participated in the workshop on Salvage and Control Pollution , which instructed and delighted us with its well made presentations as well as the moderator of the panel , which has managed driving the same cadence

The first presentation, by the Representative of the Directorate Genera of Merchant Marine , was on the responsibility Spanish Maritime Administration that has security, not only the concept of safety of human life at sea , safety, but also from the point of view of police security , ie security .

Through the Maritime Authorities and Maritime Districts covering all the Spanish ports more than 8,000 km of coastline, and taking into account the high number of passengers and cargo moving in Spanish ports , especially in Operation Crossing the Strait that takes place every year around this time, the Maritime Administration Spanish is the guarantor of compliance with the ISPS Code , taking emphasis on



measures to be taken both in the passage accesses and load as the measures themselves on board, all the time to prevent access of outsiders to the crew restricted areas of the ship, such as the bridge and engine room and surveillance and monitoring also to be taken, both ashore and afloat , to prevent people boarding areas different from those provided for this purpose.

In the second presentation , Gálvez Ruiz lawyers instructed us on the International legislation on compensation current economic connection with oil spills at sea from ships.

Despite increasingly increased security measures on board ships, through a growing international law demanding increased maritime traffic increase also makes risk.

The various agreements in force :

- The 1992 Civil Liability Convention
- The 1992 Fund Convention
- The 2001 Convention bunkers
- And STOPIA and TOPIA Agreements

have been developed to create forms of compensation to the enormous costs generated to compensate the losers by catastrophe a large oil spill .

Indeed each is complementary to the other , such that.

Your application will be staggered doing to reach the high numbers needed to compensate those involved , provided under the premise: the polluter pays .

In fact, the latest addition to the ones mentioned Conventions Agreements TOPIA STOPIA and that together with the application of the first, make can be reached to achieve compensatory figures 750 million Special Drawing Rights , equivalent at



present to amount close to € billion , 1 billion € .

The main objective , however , is to encourage all countries that have not yet done so to ratify these conventions and agreements , all for the benefit of victims who thus have nothing to do with maritime business and that has caused a terrible injury, from fishermen to hotel and, thanks to these agreements , they can see compensated for their losses.

Subsequently, the representative of REMPEC talked about the meeting and group exercise vigilance against the pollution OSCARMED 2013 , and shows the international cooperation, during the year , among the five countries participants : France, Italy, Algeria , Morocco and Spain .

The exercise consisted of conducting an intensive air surveillance West Mediterranean , carried out on the halls of higher merchant ship traffic for 42 hours in a row and In order to detect possible illegal dumping offenders hydrocarbons tracking approximately 900,000 km2 and monitored a total of 674 ships.

The main achievement of this operation has been good coordination between units and participating countries , not only in operations themselves, but during the meeting .

Following this intervention has generated an interesting debate , reaching the conclusion to be followed in the line of work cooperatively between different countries and different agencies , in order to optimize the use of media, especially air and satellite-based , as well as collection of evidence that may be valid to punish the potential offenders .



Next, the representative emphasized the SASEMAR different SAR bilateral agreements concluded between the Spanish State and France, Algeria and Morocco . Conventions as the Plan or the Gulf of Lion Sarmed help get Rescue missions improve people at sea and the means necessary for the development of an operation of this type are better coordinated and most effective.

Finally , these findings did not want to end without noting the thread driver who has tackled this forum and that is just the idea that all countries and organizations that are involved in this maritime adventure should share information and efforts , in order to optimize resources .

On balance , and in connection with the words spoken yesterday by the Admiral Bolívar on whether to consider the sea as a link between the peoples , this consideration is only return to the old , obsolete principle not transmitted by Consul Roman Pompey the Great when embarking on their ships laden wheat in North Africa , and the urgent need to address Rome in the middle of a heavy storm to combat famine in their countrymen , harangued his crews with the phrase *Living is not necessary, sailing is* .

Thank you very much ,



Annex XII

MedCGFF Working Group 4 conclusions.
Terms of reference



Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum
MedCGFF

Terms of Reference (ToR)

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I. OVERVIEW

1. The Mediterranean is a major shipping channel with almost a third of all international cargo traffic; it is also a leading tourist destination and a unique ecosystem that holds a great biodiversity; its fishing industry is a significant source of employment.
2. The safety and economic security of the Mediterranean countries depend substantially upon the secure use of the world's seas. Secure use of the seas is paramount to achieve the objectives of maintaining vibrant maritime commerce.
3. The Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MedCGFF) is a non-binding, voluntary, independent and non-political forum bringing together representatives from institutions and agencies with related competencies in coast guard functions in the Mediterranean to facilitate multilateral cooperation on a wide range of issues such as maritime safety, security and environmental protection activities as well as the potential partnership for their application, seeking solutions to common problems and issues confronting participating countries by sharing expertise and best practices in a cooperative and consensual manner.
4. The MedCGFF intends to promote international efforts that enhance the safety and security of the maritime commons while preserving freedom of the seas for legitimate purposes. Success cannot be achieved by any one country acting unilaterally, but requires a partnership of nations willing to maintain a strong, united international front.
5. To the aim of MedCGFF, the term "Coast Guard functions" is referred to activities such asof any national administration with "Coast Guard" responsibilities at sea, notwithstanding of its official denomination, whose main functions and duties comprise one or more of the issues within the matters of interest established on this TOR.

II. BACKGROUND

6. Following similar initiatives in the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean, as well as in the Baltic Sea and in the Black Sea, Italy promoted the organization of the "1st Mediterranean Coast Guard Services Forum". The idea of hosting such event (first launched in 2008) gained the support of the main reference institutions, starting in Genoa in 2009
7. Following the spirit of international cooperation amongst the Mediterranean countries in coast guard functions, France contributed to take a step further with its proposal to host the second edition of the MedCGFF in Marseille in 2012.



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8. In 2013, Spain, strongly supporting this purpose, took the responsibility to organize the Summit in Palma de Mallorca.

III. AIM

9. MedCGFF seeks to enhance maritime safety, security and environmental protection activities within the Mediterranean basin as well as the potential partnership for their application, providing solutions to common problems and issues by sharing information, expertise and best practices in a cooperative and consensual manner among Mediterranean countries promoting mutual understanding of regional risks and threats.
10. Its aim is to provide a Forum for the adequate level of discussion, exchanging information on juridical, technical and operational experiences within the framework of current international law, and in close relationship with existing international and regional organizations specialized on maritime matters, in order to promoting trust, building working relationships and networks among concerned services.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

11. MedCGFF is voluntarily comprised of the countries and international or regional organisations represented at his meetings. No formal membership is required to attend the meetings and other events sponsored by the Forum.
12. Any organisation, institution or agency with responsibilities in Coast Guard Functions of any Mediterranean country, including the ones with approaches to this sea, may be part of the Forum on a voluntary basis. These will have the right to vote on any decision or recommendation taken.
13. Non Mediterranean countries and international or regional organizations can participate in the periodical meetings of MedCGFF on a voluntary basis as observers and may be invited as “friends of the chair” on a one-by-one basis and will have the right to express their opinion at the meetings but not to vote.

V. GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

A. Governance Structure



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14. The MedCGFF will meet annually, or more often if required, however MedCGFF work continues year round through the Secretariat (see paragraph V.B.iii “The Secretariat”).
15. MedCGFF summit may be divided into Sessions or Pannels so as to address the main issues of interest for Coast Guard Functions. The speakers for such sessions may be chosen amongst the same Heads of concerned agencies, or their representatives, as well as university professors, experts from international or regional organizations or qualified lecturers on maritime issues.

B. Roles and responsibilities

i. The Host Nation

16. The responsibility of hosting the periodical MedCGFF meetings is rotated among participating countries on a voluntary basis. Each participating countries may suggest its own candidacy to host any upcoming plenary session editions: in case more than one country is willing to host same meeting, the chair will act so as to reach a consensual agreement on the designation of the next host country.
17. To date, the meetings have been hosted as follows:

| YEAR | HOSTING COUNTRY |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 2009 | Italy |
| 2010 | (it did not take place) |
| 2011 | (it did not take place) |
| 2012 | France |
| 2013 | Spain |
| 2014 | Portugal |
| 2015 | TBD |

18. The host country is responsible for planning and scheduling meetings at a suitable location with appropriate technical equipment and assisting the delegations on travel details.
19. The host country provides all meeting documents for participants upon registration, and is responsible for possible translation services and publicity.
20. Any further work that may come from issues raised and discussed during the conference is the responsibility of the host country for next year conference. This work may be done through special tailored ad hoc working groups led by the host country and results of the work will be presented during the following conference.



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21. As a general rule, the host country should bear the costs of inland transport and boarding and should provide at least one social event (gala dinner) for participants. The participants will bear the costs of travel and accommodation, if not otherwise planned by the host country.
22. EU bodies may provide the possible administrative support and/or financial sponsorship for the planning and execution of the conference and related activities.
23. The host country should issue brief results and conclusions on the outcome of the conference at the handover to the next host country. Minutes from the conference should be distributed to participants by the host responsible for the conference no later than two months after the conference.

ii. The Chair

24. The chair of the plenary sessions is held by the Head of Delegation of the Host country.
25. The chair should take measures to:
 - Deliver post-meeting reports of the session's accomplishments and decisions;
 - Suggest the establishment of issues to be addressed by the MedCGFF
 - Provide point of contact information for MedCGFF public activities;
 - Identify lecturers and speakers for the MedCGFF meetings;
 - Tentatively identify and evaluate possible host countries for next
 - Create the operational environment for success through targeted public awareness campaigns, thus strengthening MedCGFF through increased
 - Invite interested parties (extra Mediterranean countries as well as international or regional organizations) to attend MedCGFF meetings as observers.

The country, national agency or organization responsible for chairmanship for the next year conference will be selected and appointed at the closing day of each conference. The organization or country willing to chair and host the next conference should indicate this to the chairman in advance to the plenary conference.

iii. The Secretariat

26. To facilitate the work of the Forum, a MedCGFF Secretariat will be established.



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27. It will be composed by:

- One delegate from the coming MedCGFF host country.
- One delegate from last two MedCGFF organiser countries.
- One delegate from future MedCGFF organizer countries (if already known).
- One delegate from the European Commission.

28. The Secretariat will support the activities of the MedCGFF, operating as a permanent point of contact with the various participating countries, international or regional organizations, national Coast Guard services or relevant maritime administrations, maintaining after-action reports and collecting news and articles on MedCGFF, and coordinating the use of MedCGFF logo and website. It will be the depository of all documents and papers developed within the framework of MedCGFF meetings and events.

29. It will oversee the smooth planning, running and future development of MedCGFF. To this end, and focusing on planning the organization of the annual plenary meetings, the Secretariat will foresee, as required, regular meetings along the year, providing thus a convenient continuity between annual MedCGFF summits.

30. The Secretariat will support each year's designated host country for the planning and organization of MedCGFF meetings (providing, for instance, the list and addresses of delegations attending the previous meetings, or a copy of relevant documents of interest).

iv. The Heads of Delegation

31. The Head of Delegation is the official spokesperson for his/her country at the meeting, and may intervene as a speaker or a lecturer at the sessions/panels/working groups or may previously appoint a representative for intervention at the meeting.

32. Each participating country and the organisations attending are expected to have a national delegation on, and make contributions to MedCGFF meetings.

33. Each country and organisation's delegation members must be duly registered with the host country's responsible administration before the attendance of MedCGFF meetings to help the host Nation to organize the event.

v. Working Groups



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34. Working Groups are organized to address issues relevant to member countries of the Mediterranean. They seek solutions to common problems confronting member countries by sharing expertise and best practices in a cooperative and consensual manner.
35. Existing Working Groups are the following:
- Illegal Traffics
 - Fishery Control
 - Search and Rescue and Fight against Marine Pollution
 - MedCGFF Governance & Organization

New WG may be created following the needs of the Forum.

36. All delegations can suggest the establishment of new Working Groups or dissolution of current ones. This way, by consensual agreement, the issues addressed by the MedCGFF remain topical.
37. Each member country is expected to have, if necessary, representation on and make contributions to MedCGFF Working Groups. In some cases, when there is shared responsibility for issues among a country's agencies or departments, it is acceptable to have multiple representatives at the Working Group meetings. Working Group chairs are not expected to simultaneously chair and represent their country on a Working Group. The chair can be joined by a fellow countryman to represent national interests.

C. Action and Decision Making

38. Decisions made by participants taken at plenary sessions and other events are made by consensus. The documents agreed by the Forum will be used as guidance and reference and will not be compulsory. Observers can not take part on these decisions.
39. Participating countries undertake to meet deadlines and to carry out the different tasks according to the Decisions made.

D. Information Management

40. A permanent MedCGFF website will be available under responsibility of the Host Nation. This website should include Information such as an updated list of POCs, an updated calendar, as well as related documents of interest.

E. Language



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41. The working languages of MedCGFF are English and French. The host country will be responsible for providing relevant simultaneous interpreters at the plenary session. Each country's representative should either speak English or French (or the language of that year's host country or his/her own official language, if simultaneous translation is provided). Additional languages and translation are Host Country's decision.