

MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS FORUM 2014

Portugal

01/03 October



**DEBRIEFING TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INTEGRATED MARITIME
POLICY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
BRUSSELS 21 OCT 2014**



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THE FORUM

PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION AMONGST ALL MEDITERRANEAN AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES PERFORMING COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS PURSUING A SAFER, MORE SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.

- NON-BINDING
- VOLUNTARY
- INDEPENDENT
- NON-POLITICAL

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THE FORUM

EACH YEAR A DIFFERENT COUNTRY TAKES THE PRESIDENCY AND HOSTS THE FORUM WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION THROUGH DG-MARE

PREVIOUS MEETINGS TOOK PLACE IN 2009(KICK-OFF), 2012 AND 2013 RESPECTIVELY IN ITALY, FRANCE AND SPAIN

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THE 2014 EVENT

TOOK PLACE IN ALGARVE, PORTUGAL, ON 1-3 OCTOBER WITH THE MAIN THEME “MEDITERRANEAN RESOURCES– GOVERNANCE AND CHALLENGES” AND WAS CO-ORGANIZED BY THE PORTUGUESE MARITIME AUTHORITY AND THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN GUARD

PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS:

ALGERIA, FRANCE, GREECE, ITALY, MONACO, MORROCO, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, TURKEY, DG-MARE

INVITEES:

EFCA, EMSA, EU SATCEN, IMO, GFCM, FINLAND, GEORGIA, GERMANY AND SWEDEN

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THE 2014 EVENT AGENDA 02OCT AM



- **OPENING REMARKS – PORTUGUESE SECRETARY OF STATE OF DEFENSE**
- **KEYNOTE SPEECHES ON GOVERNANCE**
 - **PORTUGUESE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE SEA**
 - **DG-MARE**
 - **TURKISH COAST GUARD** (FISHERIES PROTECTION AND CONTROL)
- **KEYNOTE SPEECHES ON CHALLENGES**
 - **FRANCE'S GENERAL SECRETARY FOR THE SEA** (INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION)
 - **ALGERIAN COAST GUARD** (COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES)
 - **ITALIAN COAST GUARD** (COMMON TRAINING STANDARDS)

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AGENDA

02OCT PM

•WG MEETINGS:

- WG1 – ILLEGAL TRAFFICS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
- WG2 – FISHERIES CONTROL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
- WG3 – MARITIME SAFETY AND POLLUTION CONTROL
- WG4 – TECHNICAL GROUP FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE

•03OCT AM

•PRESENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG4 - TOR (CHAIRER BY RADM G. SOUSA – DEPUTY DIRECTOR PORTUGUESE MARITIME AUTHORITY)

• FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE **MEDCGFF** THE COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS ARE GROUPED IN THREE MAIN AND BROAD AREAS OF INTERVENTION - **MARINE SAFETY AND SECURITY, FISHERIES CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND POLLUTION CONTROL** AND INCLUDE:

- **MARITIME SAFETY, INCLUDING VESSEL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT;**
- **MARITIME, SHIP AND PORT SECURITY;**
- **PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING AND CONNECTED MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT;**
- **MARITIME CUSTOMS ACTIVITIES;**
- **MARITIME MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE;**
- **MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE;**
- **MARITIME ACCIDENT AND DISASTER RESPONSE;**
- **FISHERIES INSPECTION AND CONTROL;**
- **MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESPONSE;**
- **SHIP CASUALTY AND MARITIME ASSISTANCE SERVICE.**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG4 - TOR (CHAIRER BY RADM G. SOUSA – DEPUTY DIRECTOR PORTUGUESE MARITIME AUTHORITY)

- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NON PERMANENT SECRETARIAT MAY BE COMPLEMENTED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM MEMBERS OTHER THEN THE LAST, CURRENT AND NEXT PRESIDENCIES, ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS;
- IT WAS ACCEPTED THE USE OF A WEB PLATFORM, PRESENTED IN MCGFF2014, TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND WORKING DOCUMENTS DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN GENERAL MEETINGS. (<http://mcgff.org>);
- A LIST OF MAILS WILL BE DELIVERED TO ALL DELEGATIONS TO FACILITATE COMUNICATION;
- A LIST OF POC FOR DIFFERENT AREAS OF DISCUSSION SHELL BE ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED;
- A LIST OF AVAILABLE TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND EXISTING TRAINING REQUIREMENT WILL BE STARTED.

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG1 - ILLEGAL TRAFFICS

- **MAIN DISCUSSION WITH FOCUS ON TAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS AND ILLEGAL IMIGRATION;**
- **RECOGNITION THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION OF LOSS OF LIVES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AND IS THE MAIN CONCERN OF ALL PRESENT;**
- **ILLEGAL IMIGRATION CANNOT BE REDUCED TO A SEARCH AND RESCUE PROBLEM, AND IS UNDERLINED BY A SET OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES;**
- **THERE IS A NEED TO INCREASE CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION AS AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO CREATE SYNERGIES**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG1 - ILLEGAL TRAFFICS

- RELEVANT AGENCIES LIKE FRONTEX AND EUROPOL COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO IMPROVE COOPERATION AMONG EU AND THIRD COUNTRIES, IN AREAS LIKE TRAINING;
- TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF STEPS ALREADY TAKEN BY MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM;
- TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE SITUATION MAY HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON NAVIGATION SAFETY AND MARITIME TRADE;
- TO ENCOURAGE THE SHARING OF INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION TO IMPROVE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG2 - FISHERIES CONTROL (CHAIRER BY MR ABDELLAH SROUR- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF GFCM)

- **CRITICAL SITUATION OF MARINE RESOURCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH 80 % OF STOCKS OVEREXPLOITED;**
- **COMBATING THE IUU IS VITAL;**
- **INITIATIVES AIMED AT FACILITATE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHARING ARE REQUIRED;**
- **SPECIFIC INCREMENTAL ACTIONS INTENDED TO HARMONIZE LEGISLATION AND BEST PRATICES IN CONTROL AND INPECTIONS ARE DESIRABLE**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG2 - FISHERIES CONTROL (CHAIRER BY MR ABDELLAH SROUR- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF GFCM)

- **ESTABLISH A COMMON STRATEGY TO PROMOTE THE ROLE OF THE INSPECTORS THROUGH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FACILITATING TRAINING FOR TRAINERS;**
- **INVOLVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FISHERMEN COMMUNITY IN FUTURE MEETINGS AS PART OF A PROCESS TO RAISE AWARENESS,**
- **PROMOTE VMS AS A TOOL TO COMBAT IUU FISHING AND INCREASE SAFETY AT SEA, SPECIALLY REGARDING SMALL BOATS FOR WHICH AN ADAPTED SYSTEM SHOULD BE ENVISAGED;**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG2 - FISHERIES CONTROL (CHAIRER BY MR ABDELLAH SROUR- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF GFCM)

- **CURRENT MECHANISMS AND EXISTING PLATFORMS SHOULD BE USED TO ENHANCE COLLABORATION AMONG MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES;**
- **THIS FORUM IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY AND IN STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG3 - POLLUTION CONTROL (CHAIRER BY CAPTAIN COSTA CAMPOS – DIRECTOR OF POLLUTION CONTROL DIRECTORATE, PORTUGUESE MARITIME AUTHORITY)

- **WRECKS** – OIL INSIDE WRECKS IS A PROBLEM AT THE PRESENT AND FOR THE FUTURE. MORE THAN 100 WRECKS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND MORE THAN 1 M TON OF CRUDE INSIDE WRECKS ALL AROUND THE WORLD;
- **OFFSHORE PLATFORMS OIL AND GAS** – REGULATION IS NEEDED TO HARMONIZE THE APPROACH ON SAFETY WHEN STARTING DRILLING - CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR OIL SPILLS, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SAFETY ISSUES;
- **NEIGHBOUR COUNTRIES SHOULD IMPROVE SURVEILLANCE, INFORMATION SHARING AND COOPERATION ON OIL SPILLS AT SEA;**

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CONCLUSIONS OF THE FORUM

WG3 - POLLUTION CONTROL (CHAIRIED BY CAPTAIN COSTA CAMPOS – DIRECTOR OF POLLUTION CONTROL DIRECTORATE, PORTUGUESE MARITIME AUTHORITY)

- **COMMON UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IS DESIRABLE ON RISK ASSESSMENT TO SENSITIVE AREAS, TO DEFINE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR MARINE POLLUTION RESPONSE;**
- **HNS, A HUGE RISK - A CHALLENGE ON PRESENT AND FOR THE FUTURE. MORE TRAINING AND STANDARDS ARE NEEDED;**
- **EMSA WORKSHOPS AND SIMILAR TECHNICAL EVENTS – FROM NOW ON, IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THIRD COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE;**

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FINAL REMARKS

- THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING AND MAINTAIN A LIST OF POC's;
- THE DESIRE TO HAVE EU AND NON EU COUNTRIES HOSTING THE FORUM ON ALTERNATE YEARS;
- THE MEDCGFF HAS TO EVOLVE AND THE SECRETARIAT, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF LAST, CURRENT AND FUTURE CHAIRS, NEEDS TO WORK ON THE CONCLUSIONS IN ORDER TO PRODUCE PROPOSALS THAT MAY ORIGINATE COOPERATION PROJECTS;
- FOR THIS FORUM TO REMAIN RELEVANT IT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO HAVE MORE PARTICIPATION FROM NON-EU COUNTRIES;

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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