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Overview of Member States compliance with the requirements of Directive 2013/30/EU concerning External Offshore Emergency Response Plans

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Abstract

The present report is a preliminary analysis of compliance of the existing situation regarding external offshore emergency response plans with the requirements of Article 29 and Annexes VII and VIII of the Offshore Safety Directive. This report will be the basis for the next phase of the project assignment, which will deal with the provision to Member States, upon their request, of a service of advisory support to guide and assist them in the preparation of their national offshore external emergency response plans.

1 Introduction

Ensuring high levels of safety in the European offshore oil and gas industry is of paramount importance to the European Commission and to the Member States. To this purpose, the Offshore Safety Directive (2013/30/EU) introduced new safety requirements, and imposed additional duties on both the offshore industry and EU regulators.

In particular, Article 29 of the Offshore Safety Directive (OSD) requires Member States to prepare, in cooperation with the relevant operators or owners and, as appropriate, licensees and the competent authority, External Emergency Response Plans (EERPs) covering all offshore oil and gas installations or connected infrastructure and potentially affected areas within their jurisdiction.

Article 29 of the Offshore Safety Directive requires that EERPs shall be prepared in accordance with Annexes VII and VIII, and that they shall be made available to the Commission, other Member states and the public.

Effective and efficient cooperation shall be attained through measures for the achievement of high levels of compatibility and interoperability of emergency response assets, i.e. equipment and expertise, and the coordination of additional emergency response resources by Member States' response organisations as the situation evolves.

However, in a number of cases the requirements of Article 29 are reflected (or partly reflected) in the existing national operational procedures and plans in place, such as National Contingency Plans, Marine Pollution Response Plans, and Search and Rescue Plans.

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) has mandated the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) to analyse Member States' existing operational plans in place which are relevant to the offshore oil and gas emergency response, with the purpose of identifying possible overlaps, uncertainties or gaps in the roles of the Member States' various bodies involved in the EERPs, and assessing whether these plans comply with the OSD.

Based on the collection of relevant publicly available documentation and the answers provided by twelve Member States to a questionnaire prepared by the JRC and distributed by DG ENER in August 2017, the JRC has conducted a preliminary analysis of compliance of the existing situation with the requirements of Article 29 and Annexes VII and VIII of the Directive.

This draft report contains the results of a preliminary analysis that has been revised by the majority of the concerned Member States. Feedback received at a later stage is also included.

This report will be the basis for the next phase of the project assignment, which will deal with the provision to Member States, upon their request, of a service of advisory support to guide and assist them in the preparation of their national external emergency response plans.

The objective of this last phase of the project, which will involve only the volunteering Member States, is to perform an analysis of gaps/shortfalls in their existing (or under preparation) EERPs and make detailed proposals on how to improve their plans up to an adequate level. This last phase of the project is the most important and will entail bilateral interactions with the Member States.

The present report is structured as follows. After a brief introduction to the External Emergency Response Plan project with the survey of Member States' national plans for emergency response and marine pollution (Section 1), an analysis of compliance of the existing MS operational plans for emergency response against the requirements of Article 29 of the OSD is carried out in Section 2. A comparison between the national plans and

the requirements of Annexes VII and VIII of the OSD is provided in Sections 3 and 4, respectively.

The summary table with the results of the overall analysis of Member States' compliance with the requirements of Directive 2013/30/EU concerning External Offshore Emergency Response Plans is shown in Section 5. Conclusions are found in Section 6.

2 Analysis of compliance with the requirements of Article 29 of Directive 2013/30/EU

Article 29 of Directive 2013/30/EU (*External emergency response plans and emergency preparedness*) outlines the duties of Member States with regards to the preparation, implementation and review of national external emergency response plans.

Since the publication of the Directive in 2013, Member States have worked towards the fulfilment of all requirements concerning EERPs.

The following paragraphs provide the results of the analysis of compliance of Member States' EERPs with the requirements of Article 29. The analysis is based on the answers provided by Member States to the JRC questionnaire distributed in August 2017, and on publicly available documentation.

2.1 Article 29.1

- MS shall prepare external emergency response plans covering all offshore oil and gas installations or connected infrastructure and potentially affected areas within their jurisdiction.
- Member States shall specify the role and financial obligation of licensees and operators in the external emergency response plans.

Croatia

Article 29.1 is partially included in [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) by the following:

- Point 3 - *"The Contingency Plan is implemented in case of accidental marine pollution caused by oil and/or oil mixture if the amount of pollution exceeds 2000 m³, hazardous and noxious substances, and in case of unusual natural marine phenomenon."*
- Point 8 - *"The Contingency Plan shall be implemented in marine areas of the Republic of Croatia"*.
- Sections 107-110 include a description of financial liability aspects.
- Sections 111-112 define compensation of expenses.

Cyprus

According to the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#)

"The services/operators involved must prepare a detailed memorandum of activities so that there is the necessary preparation and standardization when conducting a SAR operation."

(From Addendum '1' - Appendix 'F'- "AERONAUTICAL OR MARITIME INCIDENT AT OPEN SEA" - Paragraph)

The requirements of Article 29.1 are reflected in the national contingency plan for oil pollution combating ORFEAS by the following:

- Chapter 2.8: Oil Industry Arrangements

"Operators of oil handling installations/oil terminals in Cyprus, as defined under section 2.5, have to maintain Combat Agency responsibilities and to have an FCP (Facility Contingency Plan- Approved contingency plan of the on-shore oil handling installation or

floating off-shore installation) in place in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), ratified with Law 51/1979 as amended with Laws 20(III) /2001 and 35(III) /2007 for combating marine pollution incidents. FCPs are to be coordinated with the National Contingency Plan. As such, FCPs must be designed to be compliant with the principal division of responsibilities of section 2.1 and with the tiered response structure of section 2.7 of this Plan...”

- Chapter 3.20: Claims and Compensation (Regarding Financial obligation)

“Dealing with pollution of the marine environment originating from whatever source affecting sea areas and coastlines will generally be a protracted and expensive business. Ideally those costs should be directly borne by the source of the pollution. As a consequence, it is strongly recommended here that the government authorities in charge of implementing the pollution response plans should engage immediately with the source of the pollution, and its advisors, to establish what part of the response they can and are willing to deal with directly. Agreements achieved in those circumstances may greatly alleviate the burden on the response authorities. The “polluter pays principle” is a dominating principle as regards marine pollution incidents. It is also a key principle of the European Union’s environment policy [...]”.

Denmark

[The Offshore Safety Act](#) has been changed by Act No .1542 of 19 December 2017 which entered into force on 1 January 2018. With this change there is a more textual implementation of Article 29 (1) in the Offshore Safety Directive.

References to Article 29.1 may also be found in the [Consolidated Act no. 125 of 6 February 2018](#), as follows:

“After consultation with the Minister for the Environment and Food of Denmark and the relevant minister, and collaboratively with the relevant operators and owners, the Minister for Employment shall prepare an external emergency response plan that covers all offshore oil and gas operations covered by this Act and regulations issued pursuant to this Act.”

From the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) references to Art. 29.1 are present in:

- Part 1 – Scope

“This Executive Order shall apply to oil and gas operations as defined in section 3(1), no. 16, of the Offshore Safety Act”.

References to Article 29.1 are also reflected in [Act No. 1033 on the Protection of the Marine Environment of 4 September 2017](#) (i.e. the [Marine Environment Act](#)):

Section 34b: *“The Minister for the Environment and Food shall, after negotiation with the Minister of Defense and with the involvement of the person responsible for the operation and, if applicable, the licensee, prepare an external emergency response plan for combating oil and chemical pollution from the sea from platforms and connected pipeline systems located within the security zone, which is used in connection with exploration, production or transport of hydrocarbons in Danish territorial waters and the Danish continental shelf area.”*

Subsection 2: *“The Minister for the Environment and Food shall lay down detailed rules on the content and review of the plan, including the owner's, the licensees' and the person responsible for the operation's role and financial obligations in connection with the plan and on the obligation to provide information for the purpose of drawing up the plan.”*

[Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms states that:

Section 16, subsection 1: “*The external emergency response plan, cf. section 34b of the Marine Environment Act, is prepared taking into account the internal emergency response plans and risk assessments that are prepared by the operators of oil and gas activities, cf. sections 3 and 10.*”

Section 16, subsection 2: The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2, which mentions the following:

1. *The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:*

1) *Indication of organizations, authorities and job descriptions of persons authorized to initiate emergency response procedures according to the internal emergency response plans drawn up by the operators of oil and gas installations, and according to the plan for the state owned Danish emergency response for combatting of pollution of the sea with oil and other harmful substances.*

[...]

12) *A list of available equipment including who owns it, where it is located, how and by which means it is transported to and put into operation at the location where the spill has occurred.*

13) *A description of which measures that have been taken to ensure that the equipment is kept in operational condition and how procedures are regularly updated.*

14) *A description of the measures to be put in operation in connection with the response to spills, including a description of the competences and responsibilities of each of the parties involved.*

15) *A description of who is responsible for maintaining the measures described under item 14.*

[...]

18) *A description of how the roles are divided between authorities, operators of oil and gas installations and any other agents in the preparedness, so that cooperation and coordination in connection with the response are clearly described and secured.*

Germany

Article 29 was transposed into German law by section § 65 of the Offshore-Bergverordnung (OffshoreBergV), i.e. the Offshore Mining Regulations, which are based on the [Federal Mining Act \(BBergG\)](#).

The external emergency response will be under the responsibility of the Central Command for Maritime Emergencies (CCME) starting from the moment in which they decide to take over command.

The OffshoreBergV is available online only in German language at <http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/offshorebergv/>.

Greece

The reference document transposing Article 29.1 is [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#), which is only available in Greek.

Information on the protection of the marine environment is covered in [Presidential Decree P.D. 55/1998](#).

References to Article 29.1 are present in:

- Chapter 5 – Expenses;
- Chapter 3.16 - Claims;
- Articles 12 (1b),(2),(3) of [PD 55/1998](#).

On 28 July 2016, Law No. 4409 'Framework for safety in offshore exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons, incorporation of Directive 2013/30/EU, amendment of PD. 148/2009 and other provisions', was published on the Official Journal (ΦΕΚ) of Greece (Law 4409, 28/7/2016, 136A').

The transposition of Article 29.1 into Law 4409/2016 mentions that:

*"The Competent Authority, in cooperation with the General Secretariat for Civil Protection and the other relevant bodies, shall draw up at national level a contingency plan covering all offshore hydrocarbon installations or associated infrastructures and areas likely to be affected. Following the **legal approval** of the above national plan and based on this, the Competent Authority in co-operation with co-competent bodies, the relevant managers and owners of MG. and, where applicable, license holders, draw up external contingency plans covering all offshore hydrocarbon installations or associated facilities as well as areas likely to be affected. By **decision** of the Minister of Environment and Energy, any issue concerning the financial obligations of licensees and managers in connection with external contingency plans, as well as the allocation of these obligations, is settled.*

Paragraph 1 of the Greek Law introduces the need for two additional legislative acts, one approving the new OSD planning arrangements (e.g. such as Presidential Decree 11/2002 "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil") and one for the financial obligations (by **decision** of the Minister of Environment and Energy).

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Chapter 1 - Scope

"This plan will cover all marine pollution whether it is from ships, ports and harbours, offshore installations or oil handling facilities. As such this plan will co-exist with the major incident and security plans operated by these industrial facilities and it is essential that there is a mutual respect between those in command and control of this plan and those in charge of all other relevant plans. This plan covers all incidents in, or likely to affect, the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)".

- Chapter 10 - Finance Compensation and claims management (associated with Appendix M and Appendix N):

- APPENDIX M: COST RECOVERY AND RECORD KEEPING

"This appendix contains information on how those who respond to, or are affected by, marine pollution incidents should best go about recovering the costs that they incur."

- APPENDIX N: LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION FOR POLLUTION DAMAGE

"Dealing with marine pollution, whether at sea or on the shore, can be a protracted and expensive business. Initially, the costs of clean-up operations fall on the bodies incurring them. This appendix gives a brief description of the ways that those involved in clean-up operations can later recover their costs."

- APPENDIX T: CLAIMS MANAGEMENT

"This Appendix is an overview of claims management only. Further details are available with reference to IRCG Claims Management Guidelines which have been

compiled in association with EMSA and the EU States Claims Management Guidelines."

[The Irish National Maritime Search and Rescue Framework](#) underpins the States' Capabilities and Resources to manage a major external response for an offshore installation. Chapter 1.14 of the document (*Charging for SAR services*) deals with financial obligation.

Italy

Article 29.1 requires Member States to prepare a response plan for external emergencies covering all offshore installations, oil and gas. The Committee for the Safety of Sea Operations (i.e. the Competent Authority) considers that:

- the "National emergency response plan for the protection from oil pollution and other harmful substances caused by marine accidents";
- the "Operational plan for emergency response to protect the sea and coastal areas from accidental oil pollution and other harmful substances", and
- the "Local emergency response plans" set up by the Harbourmaster – Coast Guard Office,

comply with the requirements of Article 29.1.

The Netherlands

The *Incident Besprijdingsplan Noordzee* (IBP) is the Dutch emergency response plan for the North Sea. The plan is divided into three main sections, i.e.:

- Part 0 – General parts: description of the plan, objectives, actors and roles;
- Part A:
 - Chapter 2: Legal framework;
 - Chapter 3: description of the territory;
 - Chapter 4: Actors in incident combatting;
 - Chapter 5: Processes in incident combatting;
- Part B – Chapter 6: All relevant offshore scenarios within chapter 6.9 concern offshore oil and gas, and include marine pollution with oil and gas;
- Annexes 1/9: other relevant information.

Note: the Jurisdiction is the Dutch continental shelf including the exclusive economic zone and the territorial sea. The document contains scenario maps for a total of eight scenarios, including a scenario map for offshore oil and gas installations (paragraph 6.9 of the ER plan). The scenario map for offshore oil and gas installations is divided into seven sub scenarios. For each of these sub scenarios, a RACI matrix has been developed (for actors and stakeholders during an emergency, included in Appendix 8G of the ER plan), in cooperation with government and industry organisations. For information purposes, an English translation of the RACI matrix can be found in Annex 2 of this report.

Poland

There is no specific reference to offshore EERP in the National Contingency Plan for combating Marine Pollution (2005) (as it was prepared before the publication of Directive 2013/30/EU).

Article 29.1 is partly covered within the "National Contingency Plan for Poland", as follows:

- Chapter 1: Aims and Tasks of the National Contingency Plan
1.2. *"The objective of the National Plan is to enable a quick and effective rescue action in the event of an incident that threatens or threatens the marine environment in Poland area of responsibility or otherwise threatens the interests of the Republic of Poland."*
- The role and financial obligations of licensees and off-shore operators are described in Chapter 11- Financing of the Response Actions
"Participation in the rescue operation is usually long-lasting and entails significant operating costs. At the first moment, each participant of the action bears costs on its own. Therefore, every victim or participant to counteraction actions has the right to claim compensation or reimbursement."
- Appendix U: "Responsibilities and financial claims of the polluter"
"This Annex describes in which cases and how emergency services can ask, on later stage, for reimbursement."

Portugal

The Plano Mar Limpo (Clean Sea Plan) covers all marine pollution incidents, including offshore oil and gas installations: <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Resposta.aspx>.

The Ordinance on the role and obligations of concessionaires/operators in the external contingency plans is being prepared to be published in accordance with paragraph 4, article 26 of Decree-Law 13/2017, of March 9.

Romania

Article 29.1 is covered by the [Black Sea Contingency Plan 2005](#) in:

- Volume 1: Response to Oil Spills;
- Volume 2: Response to Harmful Substances,

The role and financial obligation of licensees and operators will be implemented in the [Romanian National Contingency plan](#) for oil pollution response.

United Kingdom

According to the [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#) - Chapter 4: Implementing the national emergency response plans and emergency preparedness provisions of the Directive:

Article 29.1 requires Member States to prepare an external emergency response plan covering all offshore oil and gas installations. Central Government considers that the Integrated Offshore Emergency Response Plan (IOER) and the National Contingency Plan (NCP) fulfil this requirement. The role and financial obligations of licensees is also set out within the NCP.

2.2 Article 29.2

— EER plans shall be prepared by the Member State in cooperation with relevant operators and owners and, as appropriate, licensees and the competent authority, and shall take into account the most up to date version of the internal emergency response plans of the existing or planned installations or connected infrastructure in the area covered by the external emergency response plan.

Croatia

Not addressed

Cyprus

See Article 29.1

Denmark

Article 29.2 is covered in [the Offshore Safety Act](#) under Part 1 - point 3.7: *The external emergency response plan*, as follows:

"External emergency response plan means: A local, national or regional strategy to prevent escalation or limit the consequences of a major accident relating to offshore oil and gas operations using all resources available to the operator as described in the relevant internal emergency response plan, and any supplementary resources made available by the authorities."

Section 45b of [the Offshore Safety Act](#) shall be prepared taking into account the risk assessments and the internal emergency response plans which have been prepared by the operator and the owner, respectively.

See also [Executive Order on Emergency Response](#) etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations.

References to Article 29.2 are also reflected in [Act No. 1033 on the Protection of the Marine Environment of 4 September 2017 \(Marine Environment Act\)](#):

Section 34b: *"The Minister for the Environment and Food shall, after negotiation with the Minister of Defense and with the involvement of the person responsible for the operation and, if applicable, the licensee, prepare an external emergency response plan for combating oil and chemical pollution from the sea from platforms and connected pipeline systems located within the security zone, which is used in connection with exploration, production or transport of hydrocarbons in Danish territorial waters and the Danish continental shelf area."*

Subsection 2: *"The Minister for the Environment and Food shall lay down detailed rules on the content and review of the plan, including the owner's, the licensees' and the person responsible for the operation's role and financial obligations in connection with the plan and the obligation to provide information for the purpose of drawing up the plan."*

[Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms (Section 16, subsection 1 – 2) states that:

"The external emergency response plan, cf. section 34b of the Marine Environment Act, is prepared taking into account of the internal emergency response plans and risk assessments prepared by the operators of oil and gas activities, cf. sections 3 and 10."

Germany

The interfaces and organisational arrangements and responsibilities between the internal and external response systems are described and approved in the Main Operation Plans

(not publicly available) approved by the competent authority (LBEG). Former consultations with the CCME and LKN-SH have taken place.

Greece

Article 29.2 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

The above mentioned external contingency plans shall take account of the most up-to-date version of the internal emergency plans for existing or planned installations or associated infrastructure in the area covered by the external emergency plan.

References to Article 29.2 are present in:

- Chapter 3.5.17: Industrial plants for hydrocarbon refining and handling, of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Chapter 1.1:
"This plan will cover all marine pollution whether it is from ships, ports and harbours, offshore installations or oil handling facilities. As such this plan will co-exist with the major incident and security plans operated by these industrial facilities and it is essential that there is a mutual respect between those in command and control of this plan and those in charge of all other relevant plans"
- Appendix P - Offshore Licensing:
"Under Irish legislation every offshore installation must have an approved Emergency Procedures Manual [...]"

[The Irish National Maritime Search and Rescue Framework states that](#) each EER plan is dealt with on a case by case basis. Each of these plans is drawn up in conjunction with National Maritime SAR Framework.

Italy

See Article 29.1.

The Netherlands

The owner of the IBP plan is the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (I&W). The plan is prepared in cooperation with the Netherlands Coast Guard, Rijkswaterstaat (part of the ministry I&W), State Supervision of Mines (SodM) and the Netherlands Oil and Gas Exploration Producers Association (NOGEPA), the latter organisation for scenarios concerning oil and gas installations and infrastructure.

In addition, a permanent working group for emergency preparedness for the oil and gas industry is established, with respect to changes of and/or improvements to internal and external ER plans. This multidisciplinary 'Steering Group Emergency Response Offshore' evaluates the requirements for and improvements of the plans, equipment and the resources. A yearly (multidisciplinary) emergency exercise related to oil and gas installations is a part of this improvement process.

Poland

Article 29.2 is covered in Chapter 1: Aims and Tasks of the National Contingency Plan.

The introduction states that *"In the task of environmental protection the NCP takes into account several documents - local contingency plans, which were separately prepared by*

offshore operators and port authorities. Local plans shall contain detailed information about pollution response and cooperation with the national authorities, and together with the NCP they are the cornerstone of the Polish marine pollution response system."

Portugal

The internal plans for emergency response of concessionaires/operators are previously articulated with the External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan in working meetings with the Competent Authority (AMN - Autoridade Marítima Nacional/ Diretor-General) Only after the conclusion of these meetings, Internal Emergency Response Plans are approved.

Romania

The [Romanian National Contingency plan](#) will be updated taking into account the risk assessment and the internal emergency response plans, prepared by the operator and the owner.

United Kingdom

According to the [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#), Chapter 4 - Implementing the national emergency response plans and emergency preparedness provisions of the Directive:

"Articles 29.2 require Member States to prepare an external emergency response plan covering all offshore oil and gas installations. Central Government considers that the Integrated Offshore Emergency Response Plan ([IOER](#)) and the National Contingency Plan ([NCP](#)) fulfil this requirement".

2.3 Article 29.3

— External emergency response plans shall be prepared in accordance with Annex VII, and shall be made available to the Commission, other potentially affected Member States and the public. When making available their external emergency response plans, the Member States shall ensure that disclosed information does not pose risks to the safety and security of offshore oil and gas installations and their operation and does not harm the economic interests of the Member States or the personal safety and well-being of officials of Member States.

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) complies with the requirements of Annex 7 of the OSD.

Cyprus

Article 29.3 is partly reflected within the following sections/appendixes of ORFEAS:

- Appendix 8 – Contact details of key organizations and personnel;
- Appendix 6 - Sources of trained personnel in oil response and recovery;
- Appendix 2 - The mobilization procedure via CECIS and the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) of DG ECHO – Step-by-Step Procedure for the mobilization of assistance;
- Appendix 3 – Formal Pollution Incident Report (POLREP);
- Appendix 3.1 – Internal Pollution Incident Report;
- Section 3.2 – Notification of pollution incidents to EU and other International Organizations:

"In case of any serious incident of oil pollution, which may endanger or impact neighbouring countries, the National Combat Agency forward information and details of the incident in the form of a Pollution Report (POLREP) to REMPEC (Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea), while DMS (Department of Merchant Shipping Ministry of Transport Communications and Works MTCW) submits the POLREP to EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and ERCC (Emergency Response Coordination Centre). POLREPs shall be prepared in the format shown in Appendix 3. Emergency contact details of EMSA, ERCC and REMPEC can be found in Appendix 8.

- Section 3.1 – Notification of marine oil spill incidents;
- Section 2.9.7 – Wildlife Response".

Denmark

According to [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#):

- 1) Section 7. "Upon request from the Danish WEA, the operator and the owner, respectively, shall submit the information necessary to prepare the external emergency response plan in accordance with section 6 and Annexes 3 and 4, to the extent that the information is not available in the internal emergency response plan."
- 2) Section 8(2). "The Danish EPA and the Danish WEA shall publish the overall external emergency response plan pursuant to subsection (1) on their respective websites."
- 3) Section 8(3). "In connection with publication of the external emergency response plan, cf. subsection (2), measures shall be taken to ensure that the information disclosed does not constitute a safety risk for installations and their operation and is not detrimental to

the economic interests of the state, or the personal safety and well-being of public servants. To that end, information may be omitted from the published plan.”

References to Article 29.3 are also reflected in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.
- Section 18. “The Danish Environmental Protection Agency shall draw up an overall external emergency response plan consisting of the external emergency response plan prepared under the Marine Environment Act and the external emergency response plan prepared under the Offshore Safety Act and forward it to the European Commission as well as to other EU Member States and third countries, which may be affected by a larger Accident, cf. the Offshore Safety Act.”
- Subsection 2. “The overall external emergency response plan, cf. 1, shall be published on the website of the Danish Environmental Protection Agency and the Danish Working Environment Authority, cf. Annex 2, item 2.”
- Annex 2, item 2: “In connection with the publication of the external emergency response plan, cf. § 18, subsection 2, it is ensured that the published information does not pose a risk to the safety and protection of oil and gas installations and their operation, do not harm state financial interests or the personal safety and well-being of persons employed by authorities. For this purpose, information may be omitted at the time of publication of the plan.”

Germany

The competent CCME will always be informed about incidents requiring potentially external emergency response measures and decides about takeover of command from the operator depending on the situation.

More details can be taken from their websites:

- <https://www.havariekommando.de/DE/startseite/startseite-node.html>
- <https://www.schleswig-holstein.de> and
- [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

Article 29.3 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

External contingency plans shall be drawn up in accordance with Annex 7 and available to the European Commission, other Member States of the European Union that may be affected by the public. When disposing of external emergency plans, the information disclosed to the public must compromise the safety and functioning of offshore hydrocarbon installations, nor harm the financial interests of the State, or the individual security and personality of the officials performing such duties.

Ireland

Concerning the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#), the draft of the actual document is publicly available in internet. It complies with the requirements of Annex VII.

[The Irish National Maritime Search and Rescue Framework](#) is available to the public.

Italy

The external emergency response plan is required to comply with the provisions of Annex VII of the Directive. The Italian Competent Authority considers that the above-mentioned provisions meet the requirements of the Annex and that their publication on the websites

of the Civil Protection Department, of the Ministry of the Environment and the various Harbourmasters – Coast Guard Office, respectively, satisfy the necessity to make the Plan accessible to everyone.

The Netherlands

- The external emergency response plan (IBP) is public (at <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php>) and the provisions of Annex VII have been taken into account during the preparation of the plan;
- Because of the generic set-up of the plan, there is no reason to assume that safety and security of mining installations or the economic interests of the member states will be affected.

Poland

The Document, The National Contingency Plan for Poland <https://www.bonnagreement.org/publications> is available to all competent authorities and offshore operators (only in Polish, as a pdf document).

Portugal

The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan - has already been made available to the European Commission and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), as well as agreed on cross-border incidents, and it is not available to public disclosure for safety reasons.

Relevant information may also be found at the following websites:

- https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies/emsa_pt
- <https://www.bonnagreement.org/publications>
- <https://www.dgpm.mm.gov.pt/acordo-lisboa>

Romania

The [Romanian National Contingency plan](#) for oil pollution response is available on the [Romanian Naval Authority's](#) website.

United Kingdom

According to the [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#), Chapter 4: Implementing the national emergency response plans and emergency preparedness provisions of the Directive:

Article 29.3 requires the external emergency response plan to be prepared in accordance with Annex VII of the Directive. It is considered that the information and guidance contained in the Integrated Offshore Emergency Response Plan ([IOER](#)) and ([NCP](#)) meets the requirements of the Annex. The IOER is published on the EPOL website (www.epolgroup.co.uk), the NCP is published on the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's ([MCA](#)) website, thereby meeting the requirement of making the external plan available to all.

2.4 Article 29.4

— Member States shall take suitable measures to achieve a high level of compatibility and interoperability of response equipment and expertise between all Member States in a geographical region, and further afield where appropriate. Member States shall encourage industry to develop response equipment and contracted services that are compatible and interoperable throughout the geographical region.

Croatia

Article 29.4 is partly reflected in [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#), as follows:

- Point 31 – *"Predicting procedures encompass [...] providing technical resources and services for the implementation of measures for preventing and restricting sea pollution"*;
- Point 35 – *"Providing technical resources and services for the implementation of measures for preventing and restricting marine pollution"*;
- Point 102 – *"All persons designated to participate in the Contingency Plan must be trained and qualified for its implementation. Training is conducted through training courses and demonstration exercises on both national [...] as well as on the international level [...]"*

Cyprus

According to the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#), in complying with Article 29(4), the Republic of Cyprus is party to several international SAR agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major search and rescue incidents:

- Cyprus/Greece SAR Agreement;
- Cyprus/Syria SAR Agreement;
- Cyprus/Israel SAR Agreement;
- Cyprus/Egypt SAR MoU;
- Partnership in International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF).

In this framework, JRCC organizes and coordinates annually the multinational exercise "NEMESIS", which tests any kind of emergency regarding the offshore installations.

Concerning [ORFEAS](#), article 29.4 is partly reflected in the following:

- Point 3.10 - Contracting Third Parties
"The NCP provides for engagement of private enterprises specialized in dealing with marine pollution, as appropriate and necessary. In order to ensure the availability of experts, trained personnel and manpower in TIER II/III incidents, the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research and/or the Department of Merchant Shipping (DMS) shall preferably agree in advance with the public agencies or private sector companies the conditions for engagement of their employees in case of emergency. Commercial contracts, agreements or memorandum with private entities should include provisions for defining their roles, responsibilities and conditions for engagement of their personnel, equipment or other resources."

Denmark

Article 29.4 is indicated in [Executive Order on Emergency Response](#) in the following section:

- Part 3: Emergency response - Annex 4:
"Particulars to be included in the preparation of the external emergency response plan pursuant to section 6(2): compiling cross-border inventories of response assets, including those owned by the offshore oil and gas industry and publicly owned assets, and all necessary adaptations to make equipment and procedures compatible between adjacent countries".

References to Article 29.4 are also reflected in the [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Annex 1:
[...]
11) *"A description of the activities undertaken or planned to be undertaken to ensure that the emergency response equipment is at all times suitable for combating, including efficiency, and taking into account the best practice in the EU. It is also described to what extent the equipment is compatible and interoperable with equipment used in countries whose sea borders the Danish territorial sea and the Danish continental shelf area."*
- Annex 2:
1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:
[...]
23) *"Lists of state and enterprise owned emergency response equipment and procedures in neighboring EU Member States and, if possible, neighboring countries, and a description of the adjustments necessary to ensure compatibility."*

Germany

Germany is a contracting party of a number of international agreements (e.g. Bonn agreement). Companies are using trans-border compatible and interoperable services and equipment, if relevant.

Greece

Article 29.4 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

In implementing this Law, appropriate measures shall be taken to achieve a high level of compatibility and interoperability of emergency equipment and expertise with other Member States. Similarly, the industry is encouraged to use and develop equipment and services with a high degree of compatibility and interoperability within their geographic area of activity.

In compliance with Article 29(4), Greece is party to international agreements for co-operation, i.e.:

- The Cyprus/Greece Agreement (Law 4069/2012); and
- The Israel/Greece/Cyprus Joint Declaration of Intent (2016).

Ireland

Article 29.4 is covered in the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) under the following sections:

- Appendix B - International assistance and co-operation
"Ireland is party to several international agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major marine pollution incidents. This appendix provides a summary of them."
- Chapter 1.4 - Areas Covered
"...a number of bilateral and multilateral agreements in co-operation are in place. Ireland is signatory to the Bonn Agreement and forms part of the European Maritime Safety Agency both of which offer mutual assistance in the event of a pollution incident."

Ireland is present in several international agreements, such as the UK/Irl Agreement and the BONN Agreement. Ireland is an Associate Member of Oil Spill Response Ltd, Member of the North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum, Member of the Irish Sea Working Group, and has the Observer status at Anglo-French Joint Maritime Contingency Meetings.

Italy

In accordance with Article 29.4, Italy is part of a number of international agreements providing for cooperation in dealing with major accidents, both in terms of search and rescue as well as marine pollution.

In particular, Italy has relations with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), and the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC).

These activities relate to the deliberate disposal of waste and substances; prevention of ship-source pollution, cooperation and interventions of States in pollution at sea; to international measures for environmental protection of specific sea areas; the evolution of maritime safety instruments and the designation of special areas and particularly sensitive marine areas; to civil liability for damages caused by sea transport of hydrocarbons and harmful and potentially dangerous substances.

As far as the specific international response to marine pollution from ships is concerned, the main international agreements are the following:

- INTERVENTION 1969 International Convention on the Operation of High Seas in the event of claims causing or causing pollution from hydrocarbons (Brussels, 1969) 06.05.1975;
- LONDON CONVENTION 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Waste Discharges and Other Materials (London, 1972) 30.08.1975;
- INTERVENTION: INTERVENTION Protocol 1973: Protocol on intervention in the high seas in the case of pollution from non-petroleum (London, 1973) 30.03.1983;
- Annex I MARPOL 73/78 Annex I to the Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Marpol 73/78) containing Rules for the Prevention of Petroleum Pollution 02.10.1983;
- Annex II MARPOL 73/78 Annex II to the Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Marpol 73/78) containing Rules for the Control of Pollution from Pesticides in Tank 02.10.1983;

- CNUDM United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay, 1982) 16.11.1994; OPRC 90 Convention on the Prevention, Fighting and Co-operation on Pollution from Oil Pollution (London, 1990) 13.05.1995;
- PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY Protocol to the Barcelona Convention on Cooperation in the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and, in an Emergency, in the Fight against Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (La Valletta, 2002) 17.04.2004;
- LONDON PROTOCOL 1996 - Protocol to the 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Waste Discharges and Other Materials (London, 1972) 24.03.2006;
- OPRC-HNS 2000 Protocol on the Preparation, Response and Co-operation of Pollutants from Dangerous and Hazardous Substances (London, 2000) 14.06.2007;
- OFF-SHORE Protocol to the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution arising from the Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Platform, the Fund and the Marine Fund (Madrid, 1994) 24.03.2011;
- RAMOGEPOL 2012 Franco-Italo-Monegasco intervention plan for the prevention and fight against marine pollution (Monaco, 2012) 23.09.2012;
- INDIVIDUAL CLC Protocol 1992 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (1992) 30.05.1996;
- FUND Protocol 1992 International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for the Compensation of Oil Pollution Damage (1992) 30.05.1996;
- SUPPLEMENTARY FUND Protocol 2003 - Protocol to the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Damage to Oil Pollution (2003) 03.03.2005;
- BUNKERS Convention 2001 International Convention on Civil Liability for Damage resulting from Pollution by Boat Fuel (London, 2001) 21.11.2008. Trilateral agreement Italy Slovenia and Croatia.

The Netherlands

Extensive cooperation between operators and owners of oil and gas installations nationally and in the Region (e.g. around the North Sea) has ensured good compatibility and interoperability of equipment and services. In addition, the Netherlands Coast Guard has agreements and plans in place with neighbouring countries, such as:

- The Joint Danish-German-Dutch Response Plan to maritime incidents involving Oil and other Harmful Substances and Co-operation in Aerial Surveillance DENGERNETH Plan (North Sea Area), Joint Communication and command plan, Aerial Surveillance and the quick response plan of the authorities from Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.

Poland

Article 29.4 is partly covered in the National Contingency Plan - Appendix C: Providing Assistance, Internal and International Cooperation:

"In the field of pollution prevention, the Republic of Poland has a role into several international conventions. In addition, the SAR Service is part of international and national operational agreements. Procedure for requesting assistance from other countries, the necessity of applying to other states, parties to the Helsinki Convention 1992, may occur when national forces and measures turn out to be insufficient for effective carry out pollution removal activities."

Portugal

In order to maintain the necessary technical and operational levels, the Sea Pollution Response Directorate (DCPM) regularly organizes and/or participates in drills in Portugal and abroad.

The exercises in which DCPM participates involve means of the National Maritime Authority, the Port Administrations, national companies connected to the sea, ships registered by EMSA or other naval means of similar organizations of neighbouring countries.

During the year, the pollution response team has internal training courses and, whenever possible, some members of the team are trained in the School of Marine Naval Technologies and at the School of Firefighters Regiment of Lisbon.

Additional information is available at:

- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Formacao.aspx>
- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Exercicios.aspx>
- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Apoio.aspx>

Romania

For an appropriate oil pollution response, operators and state entities involved in response activities are using adequate equipment.

United Kingdom

According to [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#), Chapter 4.13:

In complying with Article 29.4, UK is part of several international agreements which provide co-operation in dealing with major search and rescue or marine pollution incidents:

- OPRC Convention;
- the Bonn Agreement;
- Anglo-French Joint Maritime Contingency Plan (Mancheplan);
- the Norway-United Kingdom Joint Contingency Plan (Norbrit Agreement);
- UK/Ireland Memorandum of Understanding;
- Anglo/Isle of Man Memorandum of Understanding;
- Faroe Islands – Local Agreement of Mutual Support (LAMS);
- EU Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response, European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), Overseas Territories.

In addition, national pollution response assets are controlled by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) who maintain an inventory. These assets are monitored and audited annually by the MCA. An inventory of the majority of industry owned-equipment is also maintained by Oil Spill Response Ltd (OSRL).

2.5 Article 29.5

— Member States shall keep records of emergency response equipment and services in accordance with Annex VIII, point 1. Those records shall be available to the other potentially affected Member States and the Commission and, on a reciprocal basis, to neighbouring third countries.

Croatia

Article 29.5 is covered in [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) as follows:

- Point 26 - *"The annual report is prepared by the COC (The commanding officer of the Headquarters) for the previous calendar year and delivered to the secretariat of the Headquarters by 31 January of the current annual year. The annual report contains: - data on the executed agenda for the previous year, - data on marine pollution, - data on existing equipment, place for storing equipment and operational forces which participate or may participate in the implementation of a country contingency plan, - data on existing equipment owned by the country (equipment and location of its storage), - data on performed equipment testing, - data on executed demonstration exercise and training of operational forces [...]"*.
- Point 29 - *"The list of legal and natural persons referred to in item 28 of the Contingency Plan and their equipment and resources is kept at the Headquarters command and is published on the webpage of the central state administrative body competent for the sea."*

Cyprus

According to the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\), Article 29.5 is covered by the following:](#)

- Chapter 6: Composition - Primary and Secondary Assets.
 - *"Primary SRUs (Search and Rescue Units) are all those assets and personnel of the Republic of Cyprus that are maintained on a daily standby for immediate deployment in order to be mobilised by the JRCC for SAR operations.*
 - *SAR Secondary Units include all those assets and personnel of the services that are not maintained on standby for immediate deployment for SAR purposes. Secondary Units can be mobilised by JRCC after a request that is transmitted towards the particular service, so that they take part in a SAR operation."*

Considering ORFEAS, article 29.5 is partly reflected in:

- Point 3.9: Response Equipment

"The Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR), under the Ministry of Agriculture, will allocate sufficient equipment to respond to spills identified in the risk assessment as likely to occur within their respective areas of responsibility of each DFMR. This gives each area the independence both to deal with minor spills and to mount a credible first response to more significant incidents. The allocation of equipment will be subject to regular review, with reference both to the risk assessment and consultation with the regional and local authorities, to ensure suitable levels and appropriate types of equipment are distributed at the correct locations. The key considerations shall be the flexibility and the ability to quickly re-deploy equipment either regionally or nationally [...]. DFMR shall maintain a complete database of all national oil spill response equipment, including dispersant stocks. All response equipment will be maintained by DFMR according to standards specified in the maintenance plans to ensure its readiness,

availability and reliability. The inventory of national oil spill response equipment and products use in marine pollution response operations is given in Appendix 1. The inventory includes the names and contact details of these entities and of responsible persons, as well as the exact locations of stockpiles [...]"

Denmark

According to [Executive Order on Emergency Response](#) in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations:

- Article 6(2): The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annexes 3 and 4."

References to Article 29.5 are also reflected in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

- Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

12) A list of available equipment including who owns it, where it is located, how and by which means it is transported to and put into operation at the location where the spill has occurred.

13) A description of which measures that have been taken to ensure that the equipment is kept in operational condition and how procedures are regularly updated.

[...]

22) A description of the submission of the external emergency response plan to the European Commission and Member States in the EU and third countries, which may be affected by a major accident.

23) Lists of state and enterprise owned emergency response equipment and procedures in neighboring EU Member States and, if possible, neighboring countries, and a description of the adjustments necessary to ensure compatibility.

- Section 18. "The Danish Environmental Protection Agency shall draw up an overall external emergency response plan consisting of the external emergency response plan prepared under the Marine Environment Act and the external emergency response plan prepared under the Offshore Safety Act and forward it to the European Commission as well as to other EU Member States and third countries, which may be affected by a larger Accident, cf. the Offshore Safety Act."
- Subsection 2. "The overall external emergency response plan, cf. 1, shall be published on the website of the Danish Environmental Protection Agency and the Danish Working Environment Authority, cf. Annex 2, item 2."

Germany

National pollution control assets are controlled, monitored and maintained by the CCME and the local pollution control agency LKN-SH. They also keep inventories of the available resources and equipment.

Greece

Article 29.5 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

The competent services shall keep records of emergency equipment and services in accordance with Annex 8, paragraph 1. Such records shall be available in the other Member States of the European Union likely to be affected by the European Commission and, on a reciprocal basis, in neighbouring third countries.

References to Article 29.5 are present in Annex 13 and Annex 14 of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

In the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#), references to Article 29.5 are present in:

- Appendix R: National oil spill response equipment
"There are three locations for the National oil spill response equipment. The equipment is maintained under contract with an outside company and is required to be available fully operational when called upon. There are quarterly inspections, and all equipment run up and tested, at the three locations."

Accordance of the National Contingency Plan with the requirements of Annex VIII(1) is also given in Appendix R.

The IRCG pollution stockpile is available online.

Records of pollution are kept on Clean Sea.

Italy

The Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers 4th November 2010, stipulates that each Provincial emergency plan must contain, in agreement with the competent Maritime Authority and the Region, a list of the available resources and those to be equipped with the emergency, depending on the type of defence intervention and reclaims the list of voluntary organizations and specialized centres for the care of avifauna, mammals and marine reptiles and the list of authorized centres for the collection, transport, storage and disposal of pollutants and any other resource available on the territory supplied to Public Administrations (eg, earthmoving, means of transport) and/or private (eg. equipment of industrial plants, means of satellite communications) that can contribute to overcoming the emergency phase.

These data, which in fact constitute lists of the means that can be used in the event of pollution on the coast, are attached to the various provincial plans and are kept constantly updated.

Copies of up-to-date provincial plans are sent to the Civil Protection Department, at Ministry of the Interior, to the Directorate General for Nature Protection of the Ministry of Environment - Division VII and the Coast Guard Marine Environment Department, the Coast Guard Headquarters - 3rd Department - Office I (plans), the Prefectures - Territorial Offices of the Government, Regions and other relevant local administrations and bodies.

Concerning equipment, Decree of the Ministry of the Environment 23th January 2017 provides the "Definition of equipment and stocks of response to oil pollution, which must be present in special landfills, drilling rigs, platforms production and related support vessels".

The Netherlands

The incident coordinating entity (for employing response equipment and services) is the Netherlands Coast Guard, and the owner of the equipment is the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water management.

The equipment for dealing with marine pollution is listed in a secured online site, European Commission's Common Emergency Community Information System (CECIS) for Marine Pollution. All authorised institutions can access this site at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/CECIS/login.jsp>. At the tab resources, equipment can be found which could be made available by Member States on request.

CECIS Marine Pollution facilitates communication between the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) and national authorities, making response to disasters faster and more effective. The main purpose of CECIS besides information exchange is to host a database on potentially available assets for use in emergencies. ERCC contact points are available 24 hours a day.

Also the equipment and services of operators and owners (including contracted parties such as OSRL, Wild well control, etc.) can be requested by the Netherlands Coast Guard for assistance.

Operators and owners of oil and gas installations have a responsibility to ensure that they have adequate emergency response equipment and services available to combat an emergency within their span of control. This equipment and these services (on the installations or on call) are listed in the Reports on Major Hazards and in the specific and company (internal) Emergency Response Plans.

The Netherlands Coast Guard, as incident coordinating point, has contacts with other Member States and neighbouring countries.

Poland

The list of emergency response equipment available in Poland can be found in Appendix H: "National oil spill response equipment inventory" of the National Contingency Plan.

Portugal

The registration of emergency response equipment and services is available to the European Commission, and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), which also lists Portugal's logistic bases for combating sea pollution. Additional information may be found at the following websites:

- https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies/emsa_pt
- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Apoio.aspx>
- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Meios-de-Intervencao-em-Acidente.aspx>
- <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Meios-Navais.aspx>

Romania

The Romanian Naval Authority is holding the evidences of the emergency response equipment and sends them periodically to the Black Sea Commission (regional level) and to the EU Commission through EMSA.

United Kingdom

In [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#), references to Article 29.5 are present in:

- Chapter 13: The clean-up operation at sea. National Assets, Resources and Response Options
"The aim of any clean-up operation is to minimise the damage (environmental, amenity or financial) that the pollution would cause. The Maritime and Coastguard Agency's CPS (Counter Pollution and Salvage) Branch considers the most appropriate options for clean-up and advises the relevant regulatory authority."
- Chapter 23: Liability, compensation, cost recovery and record keeping

"Dealing with marine pollution incidents can be protracted and expensive. Initially the costs of such operations fall on those undertaking them. Under current legislation, those incurring expenses as part of the response operation later seek to recover them from those responsible."

According to the [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#) - Chapter 4.12:

Article 29.5 needs to keep the records of emergency response equipment in accordance with Annex VIII point 1 to the Directive. With regard to marine pollution, the operational sections to the [\(NCP\)](#) address the majority of points. In addition, national pollution response assets are controlled by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's [\(MCA\)](#) who maintains an inventory. These assets are monitored and audited annually by the MCA. An inventory of the majority of industry owned-equipment is also maintained by Oil Spill Response Ltd. Through the [\(NCP\)](#), the MCA also keeps records of incidents for the purposes of liability, compensation and cost recovery.

2.6 Article 29.6

— Member States shall ensure that operators and owners regularly test their preparedness to respond effectively to major accidents in close cooperation with the relevant authorities of the Member States.

Croatia

According to the Safety Offshore Act (Official Gazette No. 78/2015), the Competent Authority is responsible for preparing and conducting annual plans requiring periodic exercises on offshore installations and connected infrastructure as well as for preparing annual plans for effective oversight of risks.

Cyprus

Under the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#), JRCC organizes and coordinates annually the multinational exercise "NEMESIS", which examines any kind of emergency regarding offshore installations.

Considering ORFEAS, article 29.6 is partly reflected in:

- [Point 2.9.10](#) - Training and Exercises

"It is essential that all personnel likely to be involved in a marine pollution incident meet certain requirements and standards of competency. Training programmes, to the standard of the relevant IMO model training courses, shall be carried to all levels of competency, including clean-up personnel and operators (Level 1), middle management personnel responsible for the managing the response operations (Level 2) and senior management and Administrators responsible for the decision making in the response operations (Level 3). To test and examine the capability of a Combat Agency to mobilize anti-pollution resources and equipment in response to an oil spill at sea, but also to test the reporting, communication and emergency response procedures, it is essential to regularly train the recourses through the conduct of regular exercises. Exercises can be performed at regional, national or international level. They can range from notification exercise, table-or full scale equipment deployment exercise, or all of them. Exercises shall be held at frequent intervals, at the discretion of the National Combat Agency or NOSC. As a guidance, full scale mobilization exercises shall be held at least at intervals not exceeding two years."

Denmark

According to [Executive Order on Emergency Response](#) etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations:

- [Section 26.\(1\)](#) "The Danish WEA shall be given due warning of more comprehensive emergency response drills.
- [Section 26.\(2\)](#) The Danish WEA may order persons covered by sections 5-6 of the Offshore Safety Act to take part in emergency response drills carried out by the authorities."

References to Article 29.6 are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 11](#). "The operator of an oil and gas installation shall ensure that the crew involved in the emergency response is trained in the operation of emergency response equipment and procedures, cf. Section 9 and Annex 1."
- [Subsection 2](#). "Exercises in the use of the equipment and in the emergency procedures shall be held regularly and in close cooperation with relevant

authorities. The Danish Environmental Protection Agency must be made aware of the timing and content of planned exercises in good time. The Danish Environmental Protection Agency may make demands on the content of the exercises, including on the organization of exercises not previously notified in the operator's emergency response organization."

Germany

Sections §58 and §65(5) of the OffshoreBergV- [Federal Mining Act \(BBergG\)](#)- require periodic exercises. The competent authority (LBEG) in cooperation with CCME and LKN-SH and Operators take care of that.

Greece

Article 29.6 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

Managers and owners of the MG regularly test their preparedness for the effective handling of major accidents, in close cooperation with the relevant Authorities for the activation and implementation of external emergency plans, as well as the Competent Authority.

[Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances", is the reference document concerning article 29.6, and in particular:

- Chapter 2.5: training and preparedness exercise;
- Chapter 3.18: personal training and exercises;
- Chapter 8.8: *"Apart from the paper exercises, a general exercise with full activation of available human resources and equipment shall be organized at least once every two years, so as to control all its different functions (activation, communications, decision-making, combat operations, maintenance, co-ordination of various departments and organizations, press release compilation and communication with the media)".*

Ireland

Article 29.6 is not clearly addressed in the Irish National Contingency Plan.

A programme of exercises is defined as part of the EER plan submitted on a case by case basis.

Italy

The Decree of the Ministry of the Environment 23th January 2013 provides that the Coast Guard Headquarters elaborates, in agreement with the aforesaid Ministry and with the support of the Coast Guard Marine Environmental Department, a national and international program of exercises, local emergencies to be kept in territorial waters, in the ecological protection zone and in the high seas area, and geared to the fight against oil pollution and other harmful substances.

In addition, as far as the coastal collection and treatment centres are concerned, the Harbour Master Office regularly promotes the implementation of joint exercises, in synergy with the competent authorities on ground operations as foreseen by the aforementioned Civil Protection Plan, with the involvement of all stakeholders.

The Netherlands

A yearly (multidisciplinary) emergency exercise in the oil and gas industry, including evaluation and proposals for improvement, is part of the agreement with the authorities involved and with NOGEPa. Learning points from these exercises are shared with all stakeholders. If relevant and appropriate, authorities of the neighbouring countries will

be requested for assistance. During the OFFEX in 2017 (a large scale multidisciplinary offshore exercise in The Netherlands), the Norwegian Coast Guard was requested to assist the Netherlands Coast Guard during the exercise.

Desk top exercises, including industry and government organisations, can also be included in the yearly exercise program.

Verification of operator and owner emergency preparedness, including testing of emergency response procedures and equipment is part of regular inspections conducted by the State Supervision of Mines (SodM), in the field and at offices of operators and owners.

Poland

Article 29.6 is partly covered in:

- Appendix G: "Training and Exercises"

"The International Maritime Organization recognizes that a high level of training is one of the basic factors that guarantee both correct exploitation of the sea, as well as the effectiveness and security of conducting the rescue action.

This chapter provides guidelines for organizing workouts and exercises for staff involved in actions to combat threats and pollution, especially those who are responsible for planning and organizing activities including local and central administrative bodies, industrial enterprises and shipping."

Portugal

Although Portugal has not had any offshore oil and gas drilling since 1994, when there are concessioned offshore areas, the concessionaires/operators participate in the exercises to avoid marine pollution, promoted by the Sea Pollution Response Directorate of the Maritime Authority. The last one took place on October 18th – 19th, 2017, in the Port of Vila Real de Santo António and in Montegordo beach.

Additional information can be found at: <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Atlantic-POLEX-PT.aspx>

Romania

The drills and the exercises are organized by operators and owners in cooperation with the relevant national authorities.

United Kingdom

Chapter 24 of [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#) refers to Article 29.6: Testing the National Contingency Plan.

"The ultimate test of any contingency plan is measured by performance in a real emergency, and the effectiveness of the Plan should be examined in the light of any actual emergency response. However, notwithstanding such events, the plan must be tested regularly, through a programme of realistic credible exercises."

[DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#), Chapter 4.6 states that:

"SAR exercises between the oil and gas industry and HM Coastguard SAR coordination centres occur on a weekly basis [...]"
"[...] In addition, (NCP) offshore industry related exercises are held every three years. HM Coastguard also undertakes regular exercises with the offshore oil and gas industry [...]. Regular training and awareness seminars and courses are also provided by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's (MCA)".

Furthermore DECC (now BEIS) undertakes Tier 3 oil spill exercises with installation operators every three years in order to test their pollution response and interaction with relevant authorities.

2.7 Article 29.7

— Member States shall ensure that competent authorities or, where appropriate, contact points develop cooperation scenarios for emergencies. Such scenarios shall be regularly assessed and updated as necessary.

Croatia

Article 29.7 is covered in [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#), as follows:

- [Chapter 4](#) - Response procedures and measures for reducing damages in the marine environment;
- [Chapter 5.1](#)- Procedure in case of oil spillage and/or oil mixture;
- [Chapter 5.3](#) - Procedure in case of unusual natural marine phenomena (description of different scenarios, however not fully representative of offshore oil and gas Major Hazard);
- [Chapter 6](#) - Excellence and exercises (Point 102- 106) – *"All persons designated for participation in the intervention plan must be professionally trained for its implementation. Training is conducted at national and regional level [...]", "Examination of the reporting system is carried out once a year at the national and county level [...]" "The demonstration exercise is performed by the Staff once every three years [...]"*
- [Annex 1](#) - Scheme on alerting according to the Contingency Plan and undertaking response actions in cases of oil and/or oil mixture spillage

Cyprus

Under the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#), JRCC organizes and coordinates annually the multinational exercise "NEMESIS", which examines any kind of emergency regarding the offshore installations. Reference is also found in JRCC's internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) - Paragraphs 4.1, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3.

Considering [ORFEAS](#), article 29.7 is partly reflected in point 3.22 - Updating the Plan:

"This Contingency Plan shall be considered as a "living document". As such it will require relevant and frequent updating in order to reflect to organizational changes, division of responsibilities, regional or international cooperation agreements, developments in oil spill response techniques, contacts directories and other details. A joint Committee established by the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources (DFMR) and the Department of Merchant Shipping (DMS) reviews and updates the Plan at an annual basis. Any changes or editorial amendments that become necessary for correction can be performed by DFMR. The final approved plan will be kept at the Director's office of the DFMR and any subsequent amendments following annual meetings between DFMR and DMS will be appropriately marked as new version. All relevant agencies will be notified as to the agreed changes."

Denmark

Article 29.7 is covered by [Executive Order on Rules of Procedure of the Preparedness of the Authorities pursuant to the Offshore Safety Act](#).

In the Executive Order, how the involvement of competent authorities, regarding the major accidents listed in section 2, should be (the Order sets requirements for contact information, guidelines, action cards, etc.) is described. It is also mentioned, in section 8, that the cooperation between the competent authorities shall carry out exercises for the accidents mentioned in section 2.

Article 29.7 is covered by the following sections in the Executive Order:

- Section 2:

"The Emergency committee comes into operation when a major accident occurs in connection with offshore oil and gas activities or there is a significant danger to this.

Subsection 2. The Emergency committee comes into operation at

1) uncontrolled exhaust or spillage of oil and gas where the emergency system is activated,

2) fire or explosion in connection with offshore oil and gas activities,

3) loss of installations or damage that puts or can put the installation in full or in part out of order,

4) aircraft accident at or in the immediate vicinity of installations,

5) damage to pipelines or accidents in connection with pipelines,

6) Greater gas poisoning accidents,

7) layoffs on installations to the extent that persons, the surrounding environment or the installation are thereby endangered,

8) drifting objects and/or vessels which may pose a hazard to installations and

9) other threats."

- Section 7:

"The Emergency Committee shall prepare further guidelines for its activities in an emergency situation."

[...]

Subsection 3. "The guidelines must be updated and expanded as necessary."

- Section 8:

"The chairman shall ensure that the Emergency Committee regularly conducts exercises in order to verify the procedures pursuant to section 7."

Germany

Reference should be made to section §65(5) of the OffshoreBergV- [Federal Mining Act \(BBergG\)](#). Details are provided in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) which are reassessed and formally approved by the competent authority (LBEG) every two years.

Greece

Article 29.7 of Law 4409/2016 states that:

The services referred to in paragraph 1 shall develop cooperation scenarios for emergencies. These scenarios are regularly evaluated and updated when necessary."

References to Article 29.7 are present in the following chapters of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances":

- Chapter 2.5: Training and preparedness exercise;
- Chapter 2.5.3: Assessment and updating – "After these exercises are carried out with the local coordinators, assessment of their results are normally provided in order to detect malfunctions and avoid them through revision and improvement of the rules in place. Corresponding changes are registered in the relevant data and information annexes."

Ireland

No clear reference is found in the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#). However, article 29.7 is partly reflected within the following:

- **Chapter 3:** Establishing level of response
"Personnel on duty at the three 24/7 Marine Rescue Centres have the delegated authority to make decisions dealing with a wide range of emergency response incidents [...]";
- **Chapter 4:** setting up the national response units
"In managing the pollution aspect of a marine casualty, the aim is to: First, to prevent pollution occurring; Second, to minimise the extent of any pollution that occurs; Third, to mitigate the effects of that pollution";
- **Chapter 5:** Maritime causality
"If there is a threat of significant pollution the NMOC or the Pollution and Salvage Officer contacts the salvor or, if not yet appointed, the master or owner of the ship or installation and offers assistance. If the incident occurs within port limits then the IRCG would not intervene, but would make contact in order to monitor the situation and ensure all applicable steps are taken";
- **Appendix A:** Roles and responsibilities: Department of Environment, Community and Local Government
"The purpose of this Appendix is to clarify the roles and responsibilities of lead bodies and key support organisations during a marine pollution incident".

Italy

The Competent Authority has agreed to collect documentation on the conduct of exercises in response to external emergencies carried out locally, already stored at the sites of the Maritime Compartments.

The Netherlands

This point is addressed during the meetings of working parties (mentioned in section 2.2 to this report) and conferences. This includes feedback of evaluations from practical exercises, in order to communicate learning points with all stakeholders. As a result of these meetings, a set of standard scenarios are developed and included in the North Sea emergency response plan (IBP).

Poland

Article 29.7 is partly reflected within:

- **Chapter 3:** Establishing the level of response
"The Director of the territorially competent maritime office (DUM), taking into account the type and the degree of danger or pollution, in a first phase decides about the required counteracting scale (local, regional or national). Guided with the following goals:
 - *the first task is to prevent the formation of pollution;*
 - *the second task is to minimize the size of the pollution;*
 - *the third task is to remove the effects of pollution."*
- **Appendix P - Risk Analysis.**

Portugal

The organisation and management of coordination between the Authorities and the intervening entities is described in: <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Niveis.aspx>.

The degree of readiness and the territorial arrangements established by the coordinating authority, as well as the applicable intervention plan, the concept of the operation and the intervening entities are described in: <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Graus.aspx>.

Romania

Common trainings, workshops and communication exercises at national and regional level are organised on a regular basis.

United Kingdom

[The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#) refers to Article 29.7 at:

- [Chapter 24](#) - Testing the National Contingency Plan
"The ultimate test of any contingency plan is measured by performance in a real emergency, and the effectiveness of the Plan should be examined in the light of any actual emergency response. However, notwithstanding such events, the plan must be tested regularly, through a programme of realistic credible exercises."
- [Chapter 25](#) - Reviewing the National Contingency Plan
"To keep the plan up to date the plan will be reviewed on a regular basis. Its validity will be reviewed following national exercises and after significant real world incidents, where it will be adjusted as necessary."

According to [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#), Chapter 4:

- [Point 4.6](#) - "SAR exercises between the oil and gas industry and HM Coastguard SAR coordination centres occur on a weekly basis".
- [Point 4.8](#) - "OPEPs are required under Regulation 4(1)(c) to The Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) Regulations 1998, approved by DECC (now BEIS) and reviewed on a regular basis, namely, every five years or within three months of any substantial change being required".
- [Point 4.10](#) - "DECC (now BEIS), in its guidance, requires that OPEPs are exercised regularly. In addition, major [\(NCP\)](#) offshore industry related exercises are held every three years. HM Coastguard also undertakes regular exercises with the offshore oil and gas industry, and the police and medical services as required. Regular training and awareness seminars and courses are also provided by the MCA".

3 Analysis of compliance with the requirements of Annex VII of Directive 2013/30/EU

External emergency response plans prepared pursuant to Article 29 shall include but not be limited to:

– **A. names and positions of persons authorised to initiate emergency procedures, and of persons authorised to direct the external emergency response**

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VII.A at:

- Point 2.1 – *“The Headquarters is the body in charge of the implementation of procedures and measures for predicting, preventing, restricting, achieving preparedness and responding [...]. The composition of the Headquarters [...];”*
- Point 15 – *“The MRCC in the City of Rijeka is the body in charge of coordinating the Headquarters and COCs in case of accidental marine pollution in the Republic of Croatia. Tasks of MRCC are: - operational activities in line with the Contingency Plan, - coordinating activities in line with county contingency plans, - coordinating implementation of measures for the prevention of marine pollution, - situation assessment on the basis of received and processed information and, in line with that, taking action for the purpose of preventing and reducing sea pollution, - forwarding proposals for the activation of the Contingency Plan to the Headquarters Commander, after proposing and approving a place of refuge (for a ship in distress), -mobilization of human resources, available equipment and resources from the land, sea and air upon order issued by the Headquarters' Commander, - maintaining communications and coordinating activities of all personnel participating in operations, - exchange of information with competent county 112 centres involved in the implementation of the Contingency Plan and county contingency plans, - coordinating surveillance of the polluted area by using all available resources (vessels, aircraft, helicopters, radars and satellites), -log keeping on the course of action, -informing the Headquarters on the course of action, -informing operational bodies of the other countries and REMPEC on potential/present marine pollution by the Pollution Reporting System (hereinafter referred to as: POLREP), - preparation of the annual report on marine pollution and undertaken activities [...];”*
- Point 19 – *“The County Operational Centre is the body responsible for the implementation of procedures and measures for predicting, preventing, restricting, achieving preparedness for and response to accidental pollution according to the county contingency plan as well as for operational participation in the implementation of the Contingency Plan and Sub-regional Plan [...];”*
- Point 42 - *“[...] Any person causing or observing marine pollution or an accident likely to result in marine pollution must immediately notify it to the nearest county 112 centre, harbour master's office or its branch offices. The list of bodies to which notifications is delivered and their addresses is kept at the Headquarters command and published on the webpage of the central state administrative body competent for the sea.”*
- Point 50-59 - Undertaking actions according to the Contingency Plan and country contingency plans.

Cyprus

According to the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) - Chapter 7 [7.5]: "JRCC cooperation with other countries" and the International SAR Documentation, JRCC Larnaca is the coordinating authority for regional SAR cooperation on behalf of the Republic of Cyprus.

(Refer also to JRCC SOPs - ANNEX E - For internal use only).

According to ORFEAS, such information can be found at:

- [Chapter 2.4](#) – Response Organizational Structure;
- [Appendix 8](#) – Contact Details of Key organizations and personnel.

Denmark

In the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, Annex 3\[1\]](#) - Information to be provided in the external emergency response plan pursuant to section 6(2) mentions: "*positions, perhaps names, of persons authorised to initiate emergency response procedures, and of persons authorised to direct the external emergency response.*"

References to Annex VII.A are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.
- Annex 2:
 1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"1) Indication of organizations, authorities and job descriptions of persons authorized to initiate emergency response procedures according to the internal emergency response plans drawn up by the operators of oil and gas installations, and according to the plan for the state owned Danish emergency response for combatting of pollution of the sea with oil and other harmful substances.

2) Indication of organizations, authorities and job descriptions of persons authorized to lead the emergency response after the internal emergency response plans drawn up by the operators of oil and gas installations and according to the plan for state owned Danish emergency response for combatting pollution of the sea with oil and other harmful substances.

[...]"

Germany

Names and positions of authorised persons are stipulated in the alarm plans being part of the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) of the operators. Contact addresses [Havariekommando \(CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#) are published on their websites.

Greece

References to Annex VII(A) are present in the following chapters of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances":

- Chapter 1.2.1 "*The national system of preparedness designates the Integrated Center of Search and Rescue Coordination (ICSRC) of the Ministry of Merchant Marine (MMM) as the National Coordinator, in cooperation with the MMM Division of Marine Environment Protection (DMEP) and provides for the escalation of the*

combating activity depending on the severity of each pollution incident. A relevant contingency plan corresponds to each level of mobilization of the Authorities.

The National Contingency Plan (NCP) covers the entire territory, while the Local Contingency Plan (LCP) – as detailed in the form attached – refers to the specific geographical district of the Port Authority....”

- Chapter 3.7 (National Coordinators);
- Chapter 3.5 (Bodies);
- Chapter 4.5 (Local Contingency Plan): *“The cooperating entities of the Public Sector, including mainly the Technical, Health and Fire divisions, Administrative divisions of the Region and Organizations of first- and second- level Local Government, Military Units, Police Authorities and regional Chemical Divisions of the State Chemical Laboratory (SCL) participating in the plan, along with contact details (address, telephone numbers, telex, fax numbers and e-mail address – if any) are given in Annex 10. Home telephone numbers of the competent liaisons of the above entities are included in the same Annex, as an appendix thereto.”*

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Chapter 4: *Setting up the national response units.* There are four main operational groups that would be established in the event of a spill of national importance. These response units would be separate; however, they would need to be linked in order to create an effective and efficient response.
- Chapter 6: *At sea response* - Associated with Appendix H (Pollution Operations at Sea)
Roles and positions are defined, however any reference to specific names/persons are not mentioned.

Positions are defined but no names are allocated as this would not be practical (Organisational positions).

As per IAMSAR, Irish Aeronautical & Maritime Search and Rescue and International Conventions, Ireland's Point of Contact MRCC Dublin would be the primary contact point for all maritime emergencies regardless of origin or location.

Italy

In case of a national emergency: declared by the Civil Protection Department at the request of the Minister of the Environment when, in his opinion and on the proposal of the Maritime Authority (Harbourmaster - Coast Guard Office), the situation object of the emergency is not fronted by the means available to the Ministry of the Environment itself. Since then, the National emergency response plan shall apply.

In case of a local emergency: it is declared by the competent Maritime Authority if the pollution or pollution hazard is such as to cause an emergency situation. The Local emergency response plan, prepared by each competent Maritime Authority, shall apply.

The Netherlands

The North Sea Emergency response plan (IBP) contains several arrangements to initiate the plan. Chapter 5.1 of this plan contains a description of some of the incident notification and alerting processes.

Reference to this may be found also in [NOGEP Standard 31 \(Annex 4\)\(2016\), Annex 4](#).

Poland

According to [the National Contingency Plan](#):

- Chapter 2: Initiating Pollution Response actions

"Immediate reaction to the reported incident that caused or cause sea pollution is the basis for the success of the rescue operation. Every incident at sea, regardless of whether its source is a ship, or the industrial marine installation should be immediately reported to the National Contact Point (MPNCP) located in the Coordinating Centre (MRCC Gdynia) directly or via radio coastal station. Incidents in the area of the port are reported to the harbour master. All failures of land industrial installations, the effects of which may cause marine pollution, are reported through territorial jurisdiction crisis management centre to the director of the maritime office."

Portugal

The functions are defined. However, no reference to names/specific positions is made publicly available.

Romania

The Romanian Naval Authority works as Coordinator of Maritime Operational Division, through MRCC Constanta (Centrului Maritim de Coordonare).

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 5: Roles and responsibilities of the Lead Government Departments:

Major marine pollution incidents require work on a wide range of issues apart from those directly connected with salvage, containment and clean-up operations; Chapter 5 contains a list of the actors involved.

- Chapter 11 [11.1]: Notification and Initiating a response to an incident:

"In every incident the MCA DCPSO (Maritime and Coastguard Agency's Duty Counter Pollution and Salvage Officer) is normally the first point of contact via either a CGOC (Coastguard Operations Centre) or the NMOC (National Maritime Operations Centre). Where the DCPSO assesses that the current response may be inadequate, for any reason, a further assessment is made as to whether an escalation in response is warranted. If the situation relates to an offshore incident, the DCPSO discusses the situation with the BEIS Duty Offshore Environmental Inspector and/or, in extremis, the offshore operator. Albeit as the incident develops, the responsibility for this liaison function falls to BEIS."

- Chapter 10 [10.5]: Overall Incident Management Strategy: organisational diagrams (page 27-32):

Roles are defined. However, no names/positions given as these can change. UK lead of the EERP would be from MCA Counter Pollution Branch and/or Secretary of State's Representative (SOSREP), currently Mr. Stefan Hennig.

– **B. arrangements for receiving early warning of major accidents, and the associated alert and emergency response procedures;**

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VII.B at:

Points 41 to 49 - Alerting

In particular, point 41 - *"In case of threat of pollution from a marine facility, the responsible person for this facility must inform the MRCC [...]"*.

[The Offshore Safety Act](#) refers to this requirement in the following articles:

- Article 25: 1. The licensee shall notify the Competent Authority and MRCC without delay of the following: [...] (j) any emergency; (k) any major hazard; (l) any major accident [...];
- Article 25: 2. The information referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be unambiguous and shall consist of both factual information and analytical data regarding offshore operations, including all the data foreseen for notification pursuant to the Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution.
- Article 25: 3. The information collected and assembled referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall enable the MRCC to provide advanced warning of potential damage to well integrity or offshore installation critical for safety, environmental and nature protection, and shall enable them to take preventive action [...]"
- Article 28 – Investigation following a major accident.

Cyprus

The requirements of Annex VII.B are found in the following documents:

- The [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) - Chapter 6 - Alerting Stations;
- JRCC Standard Operating Procedures - ANNEX C;
- [ORFEAS](#) - Chapter 3.1 - Notification of marine oil spill incidents.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VII.B is found in the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc.](#) in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in Annex 3 [2]:

"arrangements for receiving early warning of accidents, incidents of poisoning or incidents that may lead to poisoning, and the associated alert and emergency response procedures."

References to Annex VII.B are also reflected in:

- [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, in the following sections:

[Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

[Annex 2](#):

*"1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:
[...]"*

3) A description of how operators of oil and gas installations report early on spills.

4) A description of the authorities' procedures for notification of spills and the procedures for alerting and the emergency response initiated after the notification [...]”

- [Executive Order No. 874 of 27 June 2016](#) on reporting under the Marine Environment Protection Act, as follows:

Section 2, Subsection 2. "Without prejudice to section 16, the master of a ship, the driver of an aircraft, the head of a platform or the person in charge of a pipeline shall report if the ship, aircraft, platform or pipeline detects spillage of oil or harmful liquid substances, including spills of harmful substances and materials transported in packaged form."

Section 5. "Reporting pursuant to Sections 2 and 4 shall be made to the Defense Command, cf. section 16. The Defense Command shall forward reports from platforms and pipelines to the Danish Environmental Protection Agency."

Section 8. "Reporting in the cases referred to in Section 2, subsection 2 shall contain all the information that may be of significance for the assessment by the authorities indicated in Section 5 of the situation, including

- 1) the name of the ship, aircraft or platform, country of registration and international radio call sign,
- 2) the time of observation,
- 3) the position and extent of the observed spill,
- 4) which substances the spills consists of and the likely amount,
- 5) from where the spill originates, and
- 6) the prevailing conditions in regards to wind, sea and currents as well as the visibility at the time of observation.

Based on the above-mentioned requirements the following reporting procedure, that is agreed upon between DEPA and the oil & gas operators, is an integrated part of the operator's internal emergency response plans:

1. All spills (unintended discharge to the sea) of 70 liters or more of oil* and all spills of chemicals no matter the volume shall immediately be reported to the Joint Operation Centre through e-mail to mas@sok.dk;
2. Spills larger than 5000 liters of oil* shall in addition be reported by telephone to MAS and immediately after that by telephone to the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA)**;
3. All spills, for which it is evaluated that they can be contained and recovered, and no matter the volume, shall in addition immediately be reported by telephone to DEPA**;
4. All spills of oil* smaller than 70 liters shall be reported to DEPA every half year. The operator shall keep a log book on such spills and on the follow up actions. The log book and the report to DEPA shall also comprise spills of 70 liters or more of oil* and all spills of chemicals reported to DEPA according to no. 1. The operator shall send the report to DEPA at the latest on March 1 for spills taken place in the second half of the previous calendar year, and at the latest on September 1 for spills taken place in the first half of the ongoing calendar year.

*) Comprises crude oil and crude oil based hydrocarbon products (e.g. diesel) oil collected in draining facilities etc.

***) The initial contact to DEPA should be through 0045 72 54 40 00. If the call is taking place during the opening hours (Monday-Friday 9.00 am. to 4.00 pm.) it will be redirected to the officer in charge in DEPA. If this person is not available or if the call to DEPA is taking place outside the opening hours the following person should be contacted directly: Mr. Mikael Malinovsky on 00 45 20 86 19 94 or [private telephone number therefore not disclosed here]."*

Germany

Notification of the competent authority is legally ensured by sections § 39 and § 62(1) of the OffshoreBergV - [Federal Mining Act \(BBergG\)](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII (B) are present in:

- YP 5. Activation and application of the "Plan";
- YP 5.1;
- YP 5.3;

of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Chapter 3: Establishing level of response

"Personnel on duty at the three 24/7 Marine Rescue Centres have the delegated authority to make decisions dealing with a wide range of emergency response incidents."

- Chapter 4: Setting up the national response units

"In managing the pollution aspect of a marine casualty, the aim is to: First, to prevent pollution occurring; Second, to minimise the extent of any pollution that occurs; Third, to mitigate the effects of that pollution."

It is unlikely that an incident of national importance will be only a marine pollution incident and the response will almost certainly bring together a number of different disciplines. There are four main operational groups that would be established in the event of a spill of national importance. These response units would be separate; however, they would need to be linked in order to create an effective and efficient response."

Italy

Activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", in the "Operational emergency response plan" and in individual "Local emergency response plan". Emergency according to applicable legislation is divided into two levels:

A - Local Emergency

The hypotheses provided for in paragraph 2 of art. 11 of the Law dated 31 December 1982, no. 979. It is declared by the Maritime Authority (Harbourmaster – Coast Guard Office) territorial jurisdiction where the danger of pollution or pollution in progress is such as to cause an emergency situation.

The Maritime Authority, declared the Local Emergency, gives immediate notice to Minister of the Environment, informing also the Coast Guard Headquarters, the Maritime Director – Regional Coast Guard Command - (when not coincided), the Civil Protection Department, the local Prefecture, the President of Region and local authorities concerned.

B - National Emergency

The hypotheses provided by art. 11 of the Law dated 31 December 1982, no. 979. The National Emergency is required by the Minister of the Environment to the President of the Council of Ministers when, in his opinion and on the proposal of the competent Maritime Authority, the contingent situation of the emergency is not fronted by the means available to the Ministry of Environment.

Declared the National Emergency, the Head of the Civil Protection Department takes over all operations on the basis of the "National emergency response plan for the protection from oil pollution or other harmful substances caused by marine accidents" by the Department and gives notice to Minister of Environment, the Minister of Infrastructures and Transport and the Coast Guard Headquarters.

In situations where there is a serious risk of compromising the integrity of life, the National Emergency Declaration is prepared, by its own decree, pursuant to art. 3 of the Law dated 27 December 2002, no. 286, by the President of the Council of Ministers, upon proposal from the Head of Civil Protection Department, having heard the President of the Region concerned by the event.

The Netherlands

The North Sea emergency response plan (IBP) contains several arrangements to initiate the plan. Chapter 5.1 of this plan contains a description of some of the incident notification and alerting processes. .

The annexes contain some standard forms for notification and information to the authorities and to the companies involved.

Poland

The requirements of Annex VII.B are included in the National Contingency Plan, in the following chapters:

- Chapter 3: Establishing the level of Response

"The Director of the territorially competent maritime office (DUM), taking into account the type and the degree of danger or pollution, in the first place decides about the required counteracting scale (local, regional or national), guided with the following goals:

- ✓ the first task is to prevent the formation of pollution;
- ✓ the second task is to minimize the size of the pollution;
- ✓ the third task is to remove the effects of pollution.

- Appendix D: "Reports and forms Templates, alerting procedures"

The captain of a ship located in the Polish sea areas informs radio stations marginal about:

- ✓ all cases affecting the safety of the ship, such as collisions, grounding, damage or malfunction of equipment on board, flooding or displacement of cargo, damage to the hull or structural elements of the ship;
- ✓ all cases that threaten maritime safety, such as damage to devices...The above information should contain details necessary to conduct the action rescue services in accordance with the requirements laid down by the IMO (Resolution A.851 (20)) 1 D.2. "

- Appendix E: Levels of Response Actions: "The main feature of each incident is its uniqueness. Based on analyses marine accidents should be clearly stated that

there is no typical maritime incident. For each event, the response level should be determined separately.”

Portugal

The requirements of Annex VII.B are found in:

[Circular n. 107/2005-P](#)

- Appendix A - Emergency contact details: Single telephone directory; Contacts of the Portuguese Authorities.

[Circular n. 149/2010-P](#)

- Appendix B - Forms:
 - Form1 - emergency notification;
 - Form2 - Reporting format (EU Regulation No 1112/2014);
 - Form3 - Communication of the daily situation;
 - Form4 - Notification Form;
 - Form5 - Form of mobilization;
 - Form6 - Air Surveillance;
 - Form7 - Roles and Responsibilities of the Emergency Response Team .

Romania

MRCC Constanta (Centrului Maritim de Coordonare) is the National Contact Point for receiving warnings and alerts of major accidents.

United Kingdom

From [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 11 [11.5-11.8]: Notification and Initiating a response to an incident; [11.7][...] *offshore operator is required to submit, within six hours of the incident occurring...*

In addition, where an incident has resulted in greater than 1 tonne of oil or chemicals being released from an offshore installation, these incidents must be reported to BEIS within one hour.

– **C. arrangements for coordinating resources necessary to implement the external emergency response plan;**

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution\(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VII.C in:

- Chapter 2: Entities for the implementation of the contingency plan
"Subjects involved in the implementation of the intervention plan are:
 - *The Director for the Implementation of the Intervention Plan (hereinafter referred to as: the Stozer or Headquarter);*
 - *The National Centre for Harmonization of Search and Rescue at Sea in Rijeka (hereinafter referred to as MRCC); and*
 - *The County Operational Centre (hereinafter referred to as CAO)".*

Cyprus

References to Annex VII.C are found in the following:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#):
 - ✓ Chapter 7: Concept;
 - ✓ Chapter 10: Communications;
 - ✓ Appendix F: Guidelines in SAR Incidents - Addendum "1": Aeronautical or Maritime Incident at Open Sea;
- JRCC SOPs - ANNEX C;
- ORFEAS - Chapters:
- 2.7 Levels (Tiers) of Response;
 - ✓ 3.1 Notification of marine oil spill incidents.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VII.C are found in the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in Annex 3 \[3\]](#):

"arrangements for coordinating resources necessary to implement the external emergency response plan."

References to Annex VII.C are also reflected in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015 on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms](#), as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.
Annex 2:
 1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:
[...]
"5) A description of the coordination of resources needed to put the external response into action..."

Germany

Details of the requirements of Annex VII.C are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(i.e. CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII.C are present in Chapter 1.2.5 (Establishing the level of response) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

Reference to Annex VII.C is found in the [Irish National Contingency Plan, in the following:](#)

- [Chapter 3](#) – Establishing level of response
"Personnel on duty at the three 24/7 Marine Rescue Centres have the delegated authority to make decisions dealing with a wide range of emergency response incidents."
- [Appendix A](#): Roles and Responsibilities of Key Organisations
"The purpose of this Appendix is to clarify the roles and responsibilities of lead bodies and key support organisations during a marine pollution incident."
- [Appendix J](#): Setting up a command centre
"Oil Spill Contingency Plans should include the arrangements in place if a Command Centre is required to be set up. The information below is only an indication of what may be required. Lists of the equipment required in the centre should be prepared in order to ensure the prompt commencement of Centre operations."
- [Appendix K](#): Setting up a shoreline response centre
"This appendix contains recommendations to local authorities on the establishment of a Shoreline Response Centre (SRC)."

Italy

Refer to Annex VII – B (*pages 40-41 of this report*)

The Netherlands

The role of the Coast guard as coordinator in incident response is mentioned in the IBP, from page 22 onwards. The communication plan is the example provided in figure 10. Alerting and response plans are also available (<http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=22>).

The Dutch IBP describes not only ecological scenarios but all relevant scenarios including those involving offshore activities.

Dispersants are used as the last option in The Netherlands (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment).

Poland

Reference to Annex VII.C is found in the [National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix A](#): Organisation of the Response Action and the Responsibilities of competent Authorities
The legal basis of the organization for combating threats and pollution on the Polish sea areas are defined in the following legal act: The Act on Marine Areas of the Republic of Poland and Maritime Administration.

Portugal

Reference to Annex VII.C is provided in the following chapters of The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan (document not available to public disclosure for safety reasons):

- Chapter 1 - Plan of Action:
 - Evaluation of levels;
 - Actions and notifications of response to oil spills;
- Chapter 2 - Ability to respond to oil spills:
 - Resources Level 1;
 - Resources Level 2;
 - Resources Level 3;
 - Audit and maintenance of equipment.

Additional information can be found at:

[http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/MTAMN%201%20\(A\)_guia%20de%20apoio.pdf](http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/MTAMN%201%20(A)_guia%20de%20apoio.pdf)

http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Publica%C3%A7%C3%A3o_DCPM_3%20Conten%C3%A7%C3%A3o_Recupera%C3%A7%C3%A3o.pdf

Romania

Resources are normally coordinated in accordance with the [National Contingency Plan](#).

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 9: Establishing the Level of Response

"The four principal aims of managing the response to any incident are:

 - *to protect public health,*
 - *to prevent pollution occurring,*
 - *to minimise the extent of any pollution that does occur, and*
 - *to mitigate the effects of any pollution.*

To help achieve these principal aims it is necessary to establish a response structure which is scalable and adaptable. This structure must be able to meet the above aims and be sufficiently flexible to respond to changing situations."

- Chapter 10 [10.3-10.5]: operational communication

"A major maritime emergency has the potential to pose significant challenges for responder organisations, both at sea and on shore. In addition, major maritime emergencies often have an international dimension, and may require liaison with neighbouring states. Strategic decisions for maritime incidents are taken in separate response cells and not by a single entity in charge. Further, some tactical decisions may need to be taken on shore at a strategic level, rather than at the incident scene. The core members of the three Lead Government Department cells, including a summary of roles and responsibilities is provided below. However, it should be noted that the nature of the incident will determine overall membership and responsibilities. Also provided are three organisational diagrams, which depict possible response cell structures for shipping (figure 1), offshore installations (figure 2) and port and harbour incidents (figure 3)."

According to [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#),

- Chapter 4: [4.5] reference to IOER, SAR co-operative response (pag.48)

"SAR response is co-operative: the statutory services and shore based response organisations react and offshore industry resources also provide capabilities e.g. standby, emergency response and supply vessels and offshore SAR helicopter capabilities. HM Coastguard has well developed emergency response procedures (agreed with the offshore industry) within its Operational Management System which provides Standard Operating Procedures for response to offshore installation and facility emergencies."

– **D. arrangements for providing assistance** to the internal emergency response;

Croatia

Not addressed.

Cyprus

Reference is found in the following:

- JRCC SOPs - ANNEX C;
- ORFEAS refers to Annex VII-D at chapters:
- 2.7 Levels (Tiers) of Response;
- Notification of marine oil spill incidents.

Denmark

The requirements of Annex VII.D are found in the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) - Annex 3 [4]: "*arrangements for providing assistance to the internal emergency response.*"

References to Annex VII.D are also reflected in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

"6) A description of the measures that as part of the external emergency response plan can be put into operation to provide assistance to the response initiated by the operator of an oil and gas installation.

[...]"

Germany

Details are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(i.e. CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII (D) are present in Chapter 2.4 (Escalation of mobilisation) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

The requirements of Annex VII.D are provided in the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Appendix D: Intervention shipping and offshore installations, procedures for intervention

"This appendix provides guidance on the intervention powers conferred by Irish merchant shipping legislation. It describes both the principal intervention powers derived from international conventions and other statutory powers that the Minister can use to prevent or minimise safety and pollution risks posed by ships."

However, in appendix D offshore facilities are not explicitly mentioned.

The requirements would be stipulated in the Operators EER Case submitted for approval, as per legislation.

Italy

Refer to Annex VII – B (*pages 40-41 of this report*).

The Netherlands

Arrangements for providing assistance to the internal emergency response are described in the North Sea Emergency response plan (IBP).

The Netherlands Coast Guard's Operational Search and Rescue Plan also contains a description of such arrangements (<https://www.kustwacht.nl/nl/nieuwsbericht20072016.html>). The plan is also available in English.

Poland

According to the National Contingency Plan:

- Appendix C: Providing assistance, Internal and International Cooperation
"In the field of pollution prevention, the Republic of Poland is a party to several international conventions. In addition, the SAR Service is an international and national operational agreements."

Portugal

The levels of response to an emergency situation, and all the entities involved in the management of emergency response are established in the table provided at this [link](#),

Romania

Assistance to the internal emergency response is provided in accordance with the [National Contingency Plan](#).

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 9: Establishing the Level of Response;
- Chapter 12 [12.3]: *"Where ship-owners, operators of offshore installations, port/harbour authorities and oil handling facilities face pollution incidents that exceed the response capabilities that they can reasonably maintain (especially in the provision of counter pollution equipment and personnel), additional capability may need to be brought to bear."*

Additional details on the requesting and use of national pollution response assets are available at paragraphs 13.5–13.9.

– **E. a detailed description of the external emergency response arrangements;**

Croatia

The requirements are found in [the Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) as a whole, in particular at the following chapters:

- [Chapter 2](#): Entities for the implementation of the contingency plan;
- [Chapter 4](#): Response procedures and measures for reducing damages in the marine environment;
- [Chapter 5](#): Implementation of response measures in case of accidental marine pollution.

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VII.E is found in the following:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) :
[Appendix F](#): Guidelines in SAR Incidents - Addendum "1": Aeronautical or Maritime Incident at Open Sea
- [JRCC SOPs](#) - Annex C;
- [ORFEAS](#) refers to Annex VII-E at chapters:
 - 2.7 Levels (Tiers) of Response;
 - ✓ Notification of marine oil spill incidents;
- Appendix 2 - The mobilization procedure via CECIS and ERCC of DG ECHO - Step by Step Procedure for the Mobilization of assistance.

Denmark

The requirements of Annex VII.E are included in the [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#)- Annex 3 [5]: "*a detailed description of the arrangements for the external emergency response.*"

References to Annex VII.E are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

"7) *A detailed description of the measures that are included in the external emergency response [...]*".

Germany

Details are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(i.e. CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII (E) are present in YP 5 (Activation and application of the "Plan") of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix D](#): Intervention – shipping & offshore installations: procedures for intervention

"This appendix provides guidance on the intervention powers conferred by Irish merchant shipping legislation.

It describes both the principal intervention powers derived from international conventions and other statutory powers that the Minister can use to prevent or minimise safety and pollution risks posed by ships."

- [Appendix H](#): Pollution Operations at Sea

"All ships carry oil as fuel. Some carry oil as cargo. Therefore all shipping accidents create a risk of oil pollution. Offshore oil and gas operations also create a risk of oil pollution. This appendix summarises the response options for different forms of marine pollution."

The requirements would be stipulated in the Operators EER Case submitted for approval as per legislation.

Italy

Refer to Annex VII .B (*pages 40-41 of this report*)

The Netherlands

The North Sea Emergency response plan (IBP) contains all relevant scenarios for the offshore oil & gas industry (chapter 6.9). The roles and the obligations of the mining company, Coast Guard, Police, ministry of the Infrastructure etc., are described within the mentioned scenario.

A separate plan for oil spill contingency specific to the ecological part of the North Sea is available.

(<https://rijkwaddenzee.nl/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Ecologisch-Spoorboekje-DEF.pdf>)

The Operational Search & Rescue Plan by The Netherlands Coast Guard is in place. <https://www.kustwacht.nl/nl/nieuwsbericht20072016.html> (available in English)

The communication plan is the example provided in figure 10. Alerting and response plans are also available (<http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=22>).

The Dutch IBP describes not only ecological scenarios but all relevant scenarios including those involving offshore activities.

As a result of several meetings with the Ministry, dispersants are used as the last option also in The Netherlands (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment).

Poland

According to the [National Contingency Plan](#), reference is found in [Appendix C](#): Providing Assistance, Internal and International Cooperation

Portugal

The levels of response to an emergency situation are established, as well all entities involved in the management of emergency response are found in the table available at this [link](#). Included in the third level are the entities and the external agreements, namely EMSA and Lisbon Agreement - Cooperation Agreement for the Protection of the Coasts and Waters of the North-East Atlantic against Pollution), that establish cooperation mechanisms between the Contracting Parties - Portugal, Spain, France, Morocco and the UE.

In case of episodes of pollution of the sea, the Agreement imposes to the Contracting Parties the obligation to set up their own intervention authorities and to put into action their own intervention plan, what Portugal did through the Mar Limpo Plan (Clean Sea Plan). Under this agreement, the International Centre for Pollution Control of the North-East Atlantic (CILPAN), based in Lisbon, was set up to coordinate the response between Member States of the Agreement during a marine pollution incident. <https://www.dgpm.mm.gov.pt/acordo-lisboa>

Romania

In case of major marine pollution, the Prefect of Constanta country is the General Coordinator. The Operative Centre of Marine Depollution (CODM) is the main coordinating entity through two Operative Divisions:

1. Maritime Operative Division coordinated by Romanian Naval Authority – MRCC;
2. Shoreline Operative Division coordinated by Constanta Emergency Inspectorate – ISU.

Starting June 1st 2018, the Romanian Offshore Competent Authority (ACROPO) is now part of the Operative Centre of Marine De-pollution response (CODM) as technical advisor.

United Kingdom

The requirements are included in [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#) as a whole, in particular within the following chapters:

- [Chapter 9](#): Establishing the Level of Response;
- [Chapter 10](#): Overall Incident Management Strategy.

– **F. arrangements for providing persons and organisations, that may be affected by the major accident, with suitable information and advice** relating to it;

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution\(2008\)](#) refers to this at: Point 113: *"The commanding officer of the Headquarters or COC, that is the person whom he appoints informs the public on the marine pollution accident, as well as on the undertaken clean-up activities and activities in relation to preventing further marine pollution. Public information on pollution is carried out daily on the basis of press conferences and press releases via public news and other media."*

Cyprus

The requirements of Annex VII.F are provided in the following:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#)

Appendix F: Guidelines in SAR Incidents - Addendum "1": Aeronautical or Maritime Incident at Open Sea;

- [JRCC Standard Operating Procedures](#) - Annex C;
- [ORFEAS](#) refers to Annex VII.F at:
 - ✓ Appendix 8 – Contact Details of Key organizations and personnel;
 - ✓ Appendix 4 - Map of sensitive resources;
 - ✓ 2.5 Other Combat Agencies.

"Operators of every onshore and offshore installation located in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus and EEZ, including ports, harbours & marinas, fishing shelters, oil terminals or other coastal installations dealing and handling with oil of any category, shall have the operational responsibility to maintain a Facility Contingency Plan (FCP) and to take action in order to respond to any oil spill in the marine environment in accordance with their FCP."

Denmark

Reference is provided in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#), in Annex 3[6]:

"arrangements for providing persons and organisations that may be affected by the accident or poisoning with suitable information and advice relating to it."

References to Annex VII.F are also reflected in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.
- Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

"8) A description of how people and organizations that may be affected by a spill are informed of this and guided about possible precautions as a result of the spill..."

Germany

Details are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(i.e. CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII (F) are present in:

- Chapter 3.17 (Media);
- YP 4.2.4 (Provision of guidance, technical assistance and support in terms of personnel, means and facilities, when required)
- YP 9.1 *"Only the Bureau of Communications & Mass Media of the Ministry of Merchant Marine and the National Coordinator or the Bureau of the Secretary General of the Region and the On-Scene Commander or the Public Relations Officer, depending on the size of the incident, inform the representatives of the press on the situation and the progress of the combating operations."*

of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) :

- [Chapter 9](#): Media
"A major maritime incident is of immediate interest to the local media and, depending on the scale and nature of the incident, will result in national and international media attention. It is in the public interest and the interest of all concerned to keep the media informed as fully and as regularly as possible. Failure to consider the media response at an early stage may have serious implications for the management of the whole incident."
- [Appendix L](#): Working with the Media
"Good public communication is vital to the successful handling of any incident and should be incorporated in all contingency planning. When an incident occurs the key communications objective is to deliver accurate, clear, timely information and advice to the public. The news media (broadcasting, print and text services) remain the primary means of communication with the public in these circumstances although websites are increasingly used to provide a further source of more detailed information and advice for the public."
- [Chapter 4](#): Incident command

Italy

Refer to Annex VII – B (*pages 40-41 of this report*)

The Netherlands

In general all relevant arrangements for operational issues are detailed in The Netherlands Coast Guard's Operational Plan Search & Rescue <https://www.kustwacht.nl/nl/nieuwsbericht20072016.html> (available in English).

Arrangements to inform authorities that may be affected by an incident are also in place.

Poland

According to [the National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Chapter 10](#): "Mass Media"

"Every serious incident causes immediate interest in local and nationwide mass media and in extreme cases maybe even arouse interest of foreign media. Erroneous or misinformed information may create also additional threats."

- Appendix X: Media.

Portugal

Reference to Annex VII.F is given in of The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan (document not available to public disclosure for safety reasons):

Appendix B - Forms:

- Form 2 - Format of the data report (EU Regulation No 1112/2014);
- Form 3 - Communication of the daily situation.

Additional information can be found at:

http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20107_alt%204.pdf

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20n.%C2%BA%20149-2010.pdf>

Romania

Media are in charge of the communication between the Coordination centres and persons/organisations affected by the major accident.

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 22: Communications

"Good public communication is vital to the successful handling of any incident and should be incorporated in all contingency planning. When an incident occurs the key communications objective is to deliver accurate, clear, timely and up to date information and advice to the public."

- **G. arrangements for the provision of information to the emergency services of other Member States and the Commission** in the event of a major accident with possible transboundary consequences;

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VII.G at point 69 to 72: Requesting and offering assistance

"When the Republic of Croatia submits a request for staff, technical and material resources and equipment, the competent central state administration bodies shall:

- *allow for urgent crossing of the state border of staff, technical / material resources and equipment for providing assistance with the granting of operating licenses,*
- *allow temporarily access to equipment and products (consumables that include dispersants, absorbers, dams, etc.) without excise and other charges [...]"*

In addition, [the Offshore Safety Act](#) refers to this in Article 32 – Transboundary preparedness, emergency response and implementation of the Subregional Plan.

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VII.G is found in the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) in Chapter 7 [7.5] - JRCC cooperation with other countries, as well as in JRCC's SOPs, at Paragraph 4.17 and SOP's Annex D.- Request for Assistance.

Moreover, [ORFEAS](#) refers to Annex VII.G in the following sections:

- [Appendix 3](#) - Formal Pollution Incident Report (POLREP);
- [Appendix 2](#) - The mobilization procedure via CECIS and ERCC of DG ECHO - Step by Step Procedure for the Mobilization of assistance.

Denmark

The requirements of Annex VII.G are found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc.](#) in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, as follows:

- [Part 3](#). Emergency response: External emergency response plan [Section 8(1)] forward the EERP to Commission and to other EU Member States and to third countries

References to Annex VII.G are also provided in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, in the following sections:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

"9) A description of how and by whom other Member States in the EU or other countries are notified, if a spill can have cross-border implications.

10) A description of how and by whom the European Commission is notified, if a spill can have cross-border implications."

Germany

Details are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando](#) (i.e. CCME).

Greece

References to Annex VII.G are present in Chapter 1.2.5 (International assistance and co-operation) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix B](#): International assistance and co-operation
"Ireland is party to several international agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major marine pollution incidents. This appendix provides a summary of them."

Italy

Refer to Annex VII – B (*pages 40-41 of this report*)

The Netherlands

Refer to Annex VII.F (*page 53 to this report*)

Poland

According to [the National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix C](#): Providing Assistance Internal and International Cooperation [p. C.1 to C.5 - International cooperation];
- [Appendix D](#): Reports Templates and alerting procedures.

Portugal

Reference to Annex VII.G is found in The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan (document not available to public disclosure for safety reasons):

Appendix B - Forms:

- Form 2 - Format of the data report (EU Regulation No 1112/2014)

Additional information can be found at:

http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20107_alt%204.pdf

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20n.%C2%BA%20149-2010.pdf>

Romania

The Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS) working at EU level is in place.

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- [Chapter 4 \[4.3\]](#): link to the International Assistance and Co-operation
"The document [International Assistance and Co-operation](#) provides a summary of the bilateral and multilateral International assistance and co-operation agreements currently in force."
- [Chapter 7 \[7.8\]](#): Cross Border Working

"Given the nature of the marine environment it is possible that a maritime incident could involve central government and all three devolved administrations, for example, an oil spill in the Irish Sea."

- **H. arrangements for the mitigation of the negative impacts on wildlife**, both onshore and offshore including the situations where oiled animals reach shore earlier than the actual spill;

Croatia

Not addressed.

Cyprus

ORFEAS refers to Annex VII.H in [section 2.9.7 Wildlife Response](#)

"The impact on wildlife and biodiversity can have severe consequences and will depend upon the environmental sensitivity, the type and quantity of the pollutant and the location of the oil spill. Public opinion and media react very sensitive on scenes and pictures of oil birds and wildlife and the measure of success to an oil spill is often measured by the ability to protect and rehabilitate oiled wildlife. The government Veterinary and Health Services have the primary responsibility to maintain an appropriate and well designed oiled wildlife response plan and to provide proper guidance and arrange for the necessary personnel for the immediate and effective protection, cleaning and rehabilitation of affected birds, animals and other wildlife."

Denmark

References to Annex VII.H are given in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"11) A description of the measures taken to mitigate damage to the sea or the flora and fauna on land, including in cases where oiled animals reach the coast prior to the actual spill..."

Germany

Details are stipulated in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando](#) (i.e. CCME) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VII (H) are present in YP 6.22 of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances":

"If there is a risk to, or marine mammals or other species are affected, the competent entities are notified by care of the On-Scene Commander for undertaking their protection and care."

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix Q](#): Oiled Wildlife Response

"A pollution incident at sea may result in a shoreline impact with resultant effect on wildlife. While it is acknowledged that there will be probably an escalating media and public interest in the well-being of the oiled wildlife this cannot detract from the primary role of IRCG and Local/Harbour Authorities. This is to combat

the oil itself which in turn will serve to lessen future impacts on shoreline and therefore the wildlife."

Italy

Refer to Annex VII.B (page 40)

The Netherlands

Chapter 6.2 of the North Sea Emergency Response Plans (IBP) describes the arrangements for alerting, response, etc., in case of incidents where negative impact on wildlife is expected: <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=36> (available only in Dutch).

Poland

According to the National Contingency Plan, Annex VII.H is partly covered in Appendix R: Analysis to environmental sensitivity to pollution.

"Action to save the marine environment after a significant spill of oil at sea, is depending on the scale of the threat, it may require decision-makers to act regarding the prioritization of action objectives and areas or facilities subject to protection."

The Oiled Wildlife Response Plan is a separate document.

Portugal

Reference to Annex VII.H is found in The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan (document not available to public disclosure for safety reasons) in the following sections:

- Annex D: Environmental context and socio-economic context: level of meteorological conditions, physical environment and habitats, fauna and socioeconomic sensitivities to hydrocarbon spills.

"Program for the Development of Environmental Monitoring and Ecological Characterization:

- Monitoring Program for Occurrence of Cetaceans;

- Program of characterization of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and chemical characterization.

Socioeconomic sensitivity:

- Fishing banks;

- Coastal and marine infrastructures, uses and activities;

- Oil spill sensitivity maps and sensitivity maps in general".

- Annex E: Hydrocarbon spill risk assessment: identification of potential hydrocarbon spill scenarios in terms of probability of occurrence and potential consequences.

Additional information can be found at:

http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20107_alt%204.pdf

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circular%20n.%C2%BA%20149-2010.pdf>

Romania

An adequate oil pollution response onshore and offshore is in place in accordance with the National Contingency Plan.

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

Chapter 20: Wildlife Response

"In the event that wildlife is affected by a pollution incident there is a mechanism to take contaminated animals into captivity for cleaning and rehabilitation. It is imperative that actions taken in pursuit of wildlife welfare be compatible with wider environmental safeguard requirements."

4 Analysis of compliance with the requirements of Annex VIII of Directive 2013/30/EU

Annex VIII of Directive 2013/30/EU contains a list of particulars which need to be included in the preparation of external emergency response plans, pursuant to Article 29 of the Directive itself.

4.1 Annex VIII.1

1. The authority or authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available:

- **A. an inventory of available equipment** its ownership, location, means of transport to and mode of deployment at the site of the major accident;

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VIII.1A at

Point 26: "The annual report is prepared by the COC (The commanding officer of the Headquarters) for the previous calendar year and delivered to the secretariat of the Headquarters by 31 January of the current annual year. The annual report contains: - data on the executed agenda for the previous year, - data on marine pollution, - data on existing equipment, place for storing equipment and operational forces which participate or may participate in the implementation of a county contingency plan, - data on existing equipment owned by the county (equipment and location of its storage) [...]"

[The Offshore Safety Act](#) also refers to these requirements in [Article 30 – Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution](#).

Cyprus

The requirements of Annex VIII.1A are provided in the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#), in the following:

- [Chapter 6: Composition - Primary and Secondary Assets](#).

Moreover, reference to Annex VIII.1A is found in [ORFEAS](#) in:

- [Appendix 1 - National Inventory of oil spill response equipment and products for use in marine pollution response operations, owned by DFMR](#).

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.1A is found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in:](#)

[Annex 4\(1\)\(a\)](#) - *"The Danish WEA or other authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available: a) an inventory of available equipment, its ownership, location, means of transport to and mode of deployment at the site of the accident or incident of poisoning."*

References to Annex VIII.1.A are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

12) A list of available equipment including who owns it, where it is located, how and by which means it is transported to and put into operation at the location where the spill has occurred.

Germany

The requirements are implemented by operators and [Havariekommando \(CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VIII.1.A are present in YP 6.12 and YP 6.13 (Annexes 13,14) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

The [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) complies with Annex VIII.1A.

In particular:

- [Appendix R](#): National oil spill response equipment

"There are three locations for the National oil spill response equipment. The equipment is maintained under contract with an outside company and is required to be available fully operational when called upon. There are quarterly inspections, and all equipment run up and tested, at the three locations. In addition the contractor must be available 24/7 to mobilise and deploy the equipment. Parameters are set to regulate the times taken to arrive at the stockpiles, load up the required equipment and arrive at the desired location. In the event of mobilisation a core team of six experienced personnel must be available to provide technical assistance for the equipment on site."

- [Appendix P](#): Offshore Licensing;

"Under Irish legislation every offshore installation must have an approved Emergency Procedures Manual specifying the action to be taken on, in or about the installation or involving persons working from the installation in the event of an emergency. An integral part of this Manual is a plan in relation to pollution incidents."

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

The incident coordinating entity (for employing response equipment and services) is the Netherlands Coast Guard, while the owner of the equipment is the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water management.

All equipment is listed on a secured online site, i.e. the European Commission's Common Emergency Community Information System (CECIS) for Marine Pollution. All authorised institutions can access this site: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/CECIS/login.jsp>.

The system contains all equipment which could be made available upon request. Also the equipment and services of operators and owners (including contracted parties e.g. OSRL, Wild well control etc.) may be requested by the Netherlands Coast Guard for assistance.

CECIS Marine Pollution facilitates communication between the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) and the national authorities, making response to disasters faster and more effective. The main purpose of CECIS besides information exchange is to

host a database on potentially available assets for use in emergencies. ERCC contact points are available 24 hours a day.

Poland

According to the National Contingency Plan:

A list of emergency response equipment available in Poland can be found in Appendix H: "National oil spill response equipment inventory".

Portugal

Equipment is at the disposal of the Sea Pollution Control Service (SCPM) in the different national logistic bases that constitute as places of storage of material and equipment to combat pollution (Barriers, Recuperators, Temporary storage tanks, Pumps and power units; Handling equipment).

Some of the items are only available in the logistics base of Lisbon (Items of larger dimensions / capacities, such as self-crane, container lorry, forklift, etc.).

The Competent Authority (DGAM- Direção-Geral da Autoridade Marítima) has also provided the five Maritime Departments and the twenty-eight Captaincies with adequate means to combat pollution at regional and local level, respectively.

Additional information can be consulted at the following websites:

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Bases.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Meios-Navais.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Meios-de-Logistica-Operacional.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Meios-de-Intervencao-em-Acidente.aspx>

Portugal is represented at the European Maritime Safety Agency and has access to equipment that can be made available in an emergency.

Refer also to the following websites for additional information:

https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies/emsa_pt

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Apoio.aspx>

Romania

An inventory of available response equipment is held by the Romanian Naval Authority and the Permanent Secretariat of Constanta Emergency Inspectorate.

United Kingdom

Reference is found in the National Contingency Plan (2015), in the following:

- Chapter 13: The clean-up operation at sea:
National pollution response assets are controlled by the MCA.
- Chapter: 5 [5.3]: Roles and responsibilities:
A link to the (NCP) on the MCA website is provided with all relevant information.
- Chapter 12 [12.2]: Responsibility for clean-up..

– **B. a description of the measures in place to ensure equipment and procedures are maintained in operable condition;**

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to the requirements of Annex VIII.1B at:

Point 26: "The annual report contains data on performed equipment testing, -data on executed demonstration exercise and training of operational forces [...]"

Cyprus

The requirements of Annex VIII.1B are found in the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) in the following:

- [Chapter 7 \[7.2\]](#): Execution - Readiness of SAR means;
- [Chapter 8](#): Suitability of SAR means.

[ORFEAS](#) also refers to Annex VIII.1B at the following:

- [Section 2.3](#) - Responsible Department (National Combat Agency);
- [Section 2.4.1.3](#) - Logistics and Support Team (LST).

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.1B is given in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in](#) Annex 4 (1) (b):

"The Danish WEA or other authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available: b) a description of the measures in place to ensure equipment and procedures are maintained in operable condition."

References to Annex VIII.1.B are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

[...]

13) A description of which measures that have been taken to ensure that the equipment is kept in operational condition and how procedures are regularly updated."

Germany

Annex VIII.1B is implemented by operators and [Havariekommando](#) (CCME) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

Not addressed.

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#)

- [Appendix R](#): National oil spill response equipment

"The equipment is intended for use in Ireland but may be offered abroad to assist other States. It is recognised that, in the event of a major spill, the equipment to hand may not be sufficient to cope and further stocks may be required. To counter any such shortfall, IIRCG has an agreement with OSRL (See Section 6) to provide additional equipment and technical expertise at short notice. In addition recourse may be made to neighbouring countries through Bonn Agreement or the EU via CECIS.

The equipment is maintained under contract with an outside company and is required to be available fully operational when called upon."

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response Plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

Refer to Annex VIII.1.A (page 62 to this report).

Poland

Annex VIII.1.B is not addressed directly in the document, but this is an obligatory task of Maritime Search and Rescue Service (SAR Service) stated in the Rules on Readiness. This document has to be approved by the competent authority.

Portugal

In order to provide the (Serviço do Combate à Poluição do Mar) SCPM's human resources with specific and up-to-date technical training on combating sea pollution, there is an annual training plan for the entire team. The SCPM's training ensures the preparation and permanent maintenance of all equipment and procedures for the operation and operation of the means.

Refer also to the following websites for additional information:

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Formacao.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Treino.aspx>

In order to maintain the necessary technical and operational levels, the SCPM organizes and / or regularly participates in exercises and simulacra, in Portugal and abroad. See also: <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Exercicios.aspx>.

Romania

The response equipment is maintained in operable condition in accordance with the operational procedure of the holder specialized operators.

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- [Chapter 13 \[13.5-13.9\]](#): National Assets, Resources and Response Options
National pollution response assets are controlled by the MCA and, when used in incident response, are normally managed by the MCA's Marine Response Centre (MRC).
A list of Actions foreseen by the MCA/MRC in utilising national assets is provided.
- [Chapter 24 \[24.1-24.4\]](#): Testing the National Contingency Plan
"The ultimate test of any contingency plan is measured by performance in a real emergency, and the effectiveness of the Plan should be examined in the light of

any actual emergency response. It may be that activation of the plan to a real event may negate the requirement for a subsequent exercise of the plan. However, notwithstanding such events, the plan must be tested regularly, through a programme of realistic credible exercises."

– **C. an inventory of industry-owned equipment** that can be made available in an emergency;

Croatia

Not addressed.

Cyprus

Reference to the requirements of Annex VIII.1.C are found in the following:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) - APPENDIX D: Volunteer Groups;
- [JRCC SOPs](#) - Annex C
According to the SOLAS Convention merchant shipping should respond to RCC's distress calls to render assistance.
- [ORFEAS](#) - Appendix 8: Contact Details of Key organizations and personnel.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.1.C is found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) in [Annex 4\(1\)\(c\)](#):

"The Danish WEA or other authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available: c) an inventory of offshore oil and gas industry-owned equipment that can be made available in a critical situation."

References to Annex VIII.1.C are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

[Annex 2](#):

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

12) *A list of available equipment including who owns it, where it is located, how and by which means it is transported to and put into operation at the location where the spill has occurred*

"[...]"

Germany

Industry-owned equipment is referenced in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne).

Greece

References to Annex VIII.1.(C) are present in YP 6.13 (Annex 14) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances.

Ireland

The requirements of Annex VIII.1.C would be included in the operators' plans as submitted.

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

Operators and owners of oil and gas installations have a responsibility to ensure that they have adequate emergency response equipment and services available to respond to an emergency within their span of control. This equipment and these services (on the installations or on call) are listed in the Reports on major hazards and in the specific and company Emergency response Plans.

Poland

According to The National Contingency Plan, a list of emergency response equipment available in Poland can be found in Appendix H: "National oil spill response equipment inventory".

Portugal

In the articulation of the Internal Plan of Emergency Response with the Clean Sea Plan, the inventory of the Operator's equipment is available, according to the table provided in the following [link](#), including access to contracted international resources, such as OSRL and WWC.

Romania

There is no inventory of industry-owned equipment that can be made available in an emergency.

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

"...inventory of industry-owned equipment" - OSRL equipment details are provided at <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/>.

The point is also partly reflected in [Chapter 13 \[13.5\]](#):

"Assistance may be requested by the operators of offshore installations, spill response contractors, oil handling facilities, and the harbour masters/operators of ports/harbours, where planned and currently deployed response capability is overwhelmed or may be in the future."

- **D. a description of the general arrangements for responding to major accidents**, including competencies and responsibilities of all involved parties and the bodies responsible for maintaining such arrangements;

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to these requirements at [Point 26](#):

"The annual report is prepared by the COC (The commanding officer of the Headquarters) for the previous calendar year and delivered to the secretariat of the Headquarters by 31 January of the current annual year. The annual report contains: - data on the executed agenda for the previous year, - data on marine pollution, - data on existing equipment, place for storing equipment and operational forces which participate or may participate in the implementation of a county contingency plan, - data on existing equipment owned by the county (equipment and location of its storage) [...]"

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VIII.1.D is provided in the following documents:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) at Appendix F: Guidelines in SAR Incidents - Addendum "1": Aeronautical or Maritime Incident at Open Sea;
- [JRCC](#) Standard Operating Procedures;
- [ORFEAS](#) – [Section 2.7](#) Levels (Tiers) of Response.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.1.D is given in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) at Annex 4(1)(d):

"The Danish WEA or other authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available: d) a description of the general arrangements for the emergency response to accidents and incidents of poisoning, including competencies and responsibilities of all involved parties and the bodies responsible for maintaining such arrangements."

References to Annex VIII.1.D are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

14) A description of the measures to be put in operation in connection with the response to spills, including a description of the competences and responsibilities of each of the parties involved.

15) A description of who is responsible for maintaining the measures described under item 14.

"[...]"

Germany

References are found in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#).

Greece

References to Annex VIII.1.(D) are present in YP 4.11 to 4.21 of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

Annex VIII.1.D is addressed through the whole [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) in a number of chapters and appendices.

Competencies and responsibilities are described in [Appendix A](#): Roles and Responsibilities of Key Organisations.

"The purpose of this Appendix is to clarify the roles and responsibilities of lead bodies and key support organisations during a marine pollution incident."

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

Chapter 6.9 of the North Sea Emergency Response Plan (IBP) describes how response to major accidents involving a mining installation is arranged. <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=55> (only in Dutch).

Chapter 5.2 describes the incident command structure and their duties. <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=22>.

Duties and responsibilities of each actor are described in Annex 5: <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=62> (only in Dutch).

Poland

According to [The National Contingency Plan - Appendix A](#): Organisation of the Response Action and the Responsibilities of competent Authorities

"Legal basis of the organization of combating threats and pollution on Polish sea areas are defined in the following legal acts: The Act on Marine Areas of the Republic of Poland and Maritime."

Portugal

The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan defines responsibilities and sets the competencies of the various intervening entities; the mechanisms for mobilization, aid and technical support; the strategies, methods and techniques to combat the incident; the training and training schemes for personnel involved in the direction and coordination of operations; and the establishment of logistical (operational) bases.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Niveis.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Graus.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Resposta.aspx>

The Lisbon Agreement - Cooperation for the Protection of the Coasts and Waters of the North-East Atlantic against Pollution, establishes cooperation mechanisms between the Contracting Parties - Portugal, Spain, France, Morocco and the EC. Under this agreement, the International Centre for the Fight against Pollution in the North-East Atlantic (CILPAN), based in Lisbon, was set up to coordinate the response between the Member States of the Agreement during a marine pollution incident.

<https://www.dgpm.mm.gov.pt/acordo-lisboa>

Romania

In case of major marine pollution, the Prefect of the Constanta country is the General Coordinator. The Operative Centre of Marine Depollution (CODM) is the main coordinating entity through two Operative Divisions:

1. the Maritime Operative Division coordinated by Romanian Naval Authority - MRCC;
2. Shoreline Operative Division coordinated by Constanta Emergency Inspectorate.

United Kingdom

Reference to Annex VIII.1.D is provided in [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- [Chapter 9](#): Establishing the Level of Response;
- [Chapter 5](#): Roles and responsibilities of the Lead Government Departments:

"Major marine pollution incidents require work on a wide range of issues apart from those directly connected with salvage, containment and clean-up operations; Chapter 5 contains a list of the actors involved".

– **E. measures to ensure that equipment, personnel and procedures are available** and up to date and sufficient members of trained personnel are available at all times;

Croatia

Reference to Annex VIII.1.E is given in [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#), as follows:

- Part 3, point 35 refers to the technical measures and procedures which are available and ensured;
- Part 6, points 102 – 104 refer to education and training.

Cyprus

The [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) refers to the requirements of [Annex VIII.1.E](#) in:

- Chapter 6: Composition - Primary and Secondary Assets;
- Chapter 7 [7.2]: Execution - Readiness of SAR means;
- Chapter 8: Suitability of SAR means.

ORFEAS refers to Annex VIII.1.E at:

- Section 2.3: Responsible Department (National Combat Agency);
- Section 2.4.1.3: Logistics and Support Team (LST);
- Section 2.9.10: Training and Exercises.

Denmark

The requirements of Annex VIII.1.E are included in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) , at Annex 4(1)(e):

"The Danish WEA or other authorities responsible for coordinating emergency response shall make the following available: e) measures to ensure that equipment, personnel and procedures are available and up to date and sufficient members of trained personnel are available at all times."

References to Annex VIII.1.E are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

16) A description of how it is ensured that equipment, staff and procedures are available and updated at all times, including how it is ensured that sufficient staff trained in the use of the equipment and familiar with procedures are available at all times.

"[...]"

Germany

References are given in the Main Operation Plans (Hauptbetriebspläne) and on the websites of [Havariekommando \(CCME\)](#) and [LKN-SH](#) .

Greece

References to Annex VIII.1.(E) are present in the following:

- Chapter 2.5.1: *"A satisfactory degree of operational preparedness of the mechanism foreseen for responding to pollution incidents of the sea and coastlines from oil and other harmful substances is achieved through the regular performance of exercises and the frequent training of equipment operators in the operation, maintenance and long-term storage of such equipment"*;
- YP 3.19 (updates);
- YP 4.3.3 *"Maintaining a satisfactory level of preparedness for pollution-combating human resources and equipment available in the area of their responsibility in accordance with the present"*;
- YP 4.3.5 (Training of personnel and carrying out of exercises);
- YP 1.7 *"The Annexes and Appendices of the Plan are integral parts thereof and must be updated for any changes therein at least twice annually"*,

of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

Information about Equipment (as per Annex VIII.1.E) is addressed in Appendix R of the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) and is available online (IRCG pollution stockpile).

Schedule of training, etc., would be included in the operators' plan, and approval would include an outline of schedules.

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

Verification of operators' and owners' emergency preparedness, including testing of emergency response procedures and equipment, is part of regular inspections conducted by SodM, both on site and at the offices of operators and owners.

Poland

According to the [National Contingency Plan](#), reference is found in:

- Chapter 4: Arrangement of suitable response centres;
- Chapter 6: Pollution combating;
- "Sub-chapter related to offshore installations";
- Chapter 13: "Rules on updating the National Contingency Plan":

"The National Plan consists of three parts. A detailed breakdown with the possibility of updating is presented in a table at the end of the chapter."

- Appendices A, E, F, G, H and K.

Portugal

For the performance of its mission, SCPM has an operational team made up of military, militarized and civilian personnel whose qualification and operational readiness is reinforced and tested through specific technical training and specialized training through drills and joint exercises with Port Administrations, national companies seafarers, ships

registered by EMSA or other naval means of similar organizations from neighbouring countries. For more information, consult the following;

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/MeiosHumanos.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Exercicios.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Formacao.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Treino.aspx>

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Atlantic-POLEX-PT.aspx>

Romania

The measures to ensure an adequate implementation of the [National Contingency Plan](#) are provided in the operational procedures of involved entities.

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- [Chapter 13 \[13.5-13.9\]](#): National Assets, Resources and Response Options;
"National pollution response assets are controlled by the MCA and, when used in incident response, are normally managed by the MCA Marine Response Centre (MRC)."
A list of Actions foreseen by the MCA's MRC in utilising national assets is provided.
- [Chapter 24 \[24.1-24.4\]](#): Testing the National Contingency Plan
"The ultimate test of any contingency plan is measured by performance in a real emergency, and the effectiveness of the Plan should be examined in the light of any actual emergency response. It may be that activation of the plan to a real event may negate the requirement for a subsequent exercise of the plan. However, notwithstanding such events, the plan must be tested regularly, through a programme of realistic credible exercises."

In addition, BEIS gathers information annually to determine the number of pollution response trained personnel within an operator's organisation and those provided by third party contractors (e.g. OSRL), as well as the pollution response exercises undertaken during the previous year.

– **F. evidence of prior environment and health assessments of any chemicals** foreseen for use as dispersants;

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to this requirement at Points 78 to 81: Use of dispersants

"If oil pollution and/or oil mixture cannot be removed mechanically, dispersants may be used in accordance with the dispersing dispersion scheme. The dispersion scheme is given in Annex III. Plan intervention"

Cyprus

[ORFEAS](#) refers to Annex VIII.1.F at [section 3.11](#) - Application of Dispersants.

Denmark

References to Annex VIII.1.F are provided in [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

17) Documentation of previous environmental and health assessments of any dispersants planned to be used, cf. section 54 of the Marine Environment Act.

"[...]"

Germany

The use of dispersants is not regularly planned in Germany.

Greece

References to Annex VIII.1.F are present in Chapters 6.30-6.34, Annexes 13 and 16 (Only dispersants, of approved type, upon authorization) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances".

Ireland

The [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) refers to the requirements of Annex VIII.1.F in Appendix I - Chemical dispersants: *"Only dispersants, which are on the UK's approved list, will be considered for use."*

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

The Dutch IBP describes not only ecological scenarios but all relevant scenarios including those involving offshore activities.

Dispersants are used as the last option in The Netherlands, in the Dutch part of the North Sea (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment).

Poland

The use of dispersants is not pre-planned in Poland as the non-preferred response method. The exceptional use of chemical agents requires individual approving by the maritime administration.

Portugal

The reference national document is Order No. 4567/2014 of 28 March, with the national list of dispersible products that can be used to combat oil pollution in the event of an accident at sea:

http://www.amn.pt/Lists/Legislacao/Despacho%204567_2014_Lista%20dispersantes%2002.pdf

Circular no.158 / 2014-P - Rules for the Application of Dispersants - Establishes the premises for the use of dispersants can be consulted at the following:

http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Documents/Circ_158_2014_P_Polui%a3%a7%c3%a3o%20%20dispersantes-regas%20%de%20Aplica%c3%a7%c3%a3o_alt%201.pdf

Romania

There is no evidence of prior environment and health assessments of any chemicals used as dispersants.

Due to the specificity of the Black Sea, where the exchange of water through the Bosphorus strait is not as an adequate level to ensure moving the water into the Marmara Sea and so ensuring an adequate dispersing of the pollutant, the use of dispersants within the Romanian waters is still under debate.

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- [Chapter 14 \[14.1 - 14.3\]](#): Dispersants – Approval, the link to the "Approved oil spill treatment products" is provided:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/approved-oil-spill-treatment-products>;
- [Chapter 14 \[14.11\]](#):
"The use of dispersants in relation to offshore oil and gas exploration and production activities is excluded for the Marine and Coastal Act and Marine Scotland Act regimes and BEIS has authority to approve the use of (approved) oil spill dispersant products."

4.2 Annex VIII.2

2. External emergency response plans shall clearly explain the role of the authorities, emergency responders, coordinators and other subjects active in emergency response, so that cooperation is ensured in responding to major accidents

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VIII.2 in:

- **Chapter 2:** Entities for the implementation of the contingency plan
"Subjects involved in the implementation of the intervention plan are:
 - *The Director for the Implementation of the Intervention Plan (hereinafter referred to as: the Stozer or Headquarter),*
 - *The National Centre for Harmonization of Search and Rescue at Sea in Rijeka (hereinafter referred to as MRCC) and*
 - *The County Operational Centre (hereinafter referred to as CAO)."*

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VIII.2 are found in the following documents:

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\):](#)
 - [Appendix F:](#) Guidelines in SAR Incidents - Addendum "1": Aeronautical or Maritime Incident at Open Sea;
 - [JRCC SOPs](#) - Chapter 4 and Annex B;
- [ORFEAS](#)
 - [Chapter 2:](#) The National System of Oil Spill Preparedness.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.2 is given in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in](#) Annex 4:

"The external emergency response plan shall clearly explain the role of the authorities, emergency responders, coordinators and other players in emergency response, so that cooperation is ensured in responding to accidents and incidents of poisoning."

References to Annex VIII.2 are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2.](#) The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

18) A description of how the roles are divided between authorities, operators of oil and gas installations and any other agents in the emergency response, so that the cooperation and coordination in connection with the response are clearly described and secured.

[...]"

Germany

Refer to the sections related to Annex VIII.1 (page 62 of this report).

Greece

References to Annex VIII 2 are present Chapter 3.5 ((Support by jointly competent bodies) of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances":.

"An effective response to extensive pollution of the sea and the coastline from oil and other harmful substances, aimed at protecting the public health, the aesthetic value of coastal regions, the tourist industry, the fishing resources and biodiversity, is achieved through the cooperation of the entities of the broader public sector and the armed forces as well as the private enterprises of marine transport, underwater operations, operations of assistance at sea-towage-salvage and pollution combating. The parties involved fulfil the tasks and perform the functions below stated [...]".

Ireland

The point is addressed in a number of chapters of the Irish National Contingency Plan, in particular:

- [Chapter 3](#): Establishing level of response;
- [Chapter 5](#): Maritime casualty;
- [Chapter 6, Chapter 7](#);
- [Appendix A](#): Roles and Responsibilities of Key Organisations;
- [Appendices B, D, J, and K](#).

Italy

These activities are coded in the "National emergency response plan", the "Operational emergency response plan" and the individual "Local emergency response plan".

The Netherlands

Annex 5 of the IBP provides a general description of all roles, duties and responsibilities: <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=62>.

Specific roles responsibilities and duties concerning mining installations incident scenarios are also described: <http://www.savedigiplan.nl/ibp/noordzee/pagina.php?page=55>.

Poland

According to [the National Contingency Plan](#), Appendix A: Organisation of the Response Action and the Responsibilities of competent Authorities:

"The legal basis of the organization of combating threats and pollution on Polish sea areas are defined in the following legal acts:

- *The Act on Marine Areas of the Republic of Poland and Maritime Administration.*
- *The Act determines the legal status of the maritime areas of the Republic of Poland, coastal and maritime administration bodies and their competences."*

Portugal

The External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan defines responsibilities and sets the competencies of the various intervening entities; the mechanisms for mobilization,

aid and technical support; the strategies, methods and techniques to combat the incident; the training and training schemes for personnel involved in the direction and coordination of operations; and the establishment of logistical (operational) bases.

Additional information can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Niveis.aspx>;

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Graus.aspx>;

<http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Resposta.aspx>,

and in the table provided at this [link](#).

Romania

The roles and responsibilities of the all involved entities in an emergency response are well established in the [National Contingency Plan](#).

United Kingdom

According to [the National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- **Chapter 5:** Roles and responsibilities of the Lead Government Departments;
"Major marine pollution incidents require work on a wide range of issues apart from those directly connected with salvage, containment and clean-up operations; Chapter 5 contains a list of the actors involved".
- **Chapter 10:** Overall Incident Management Strategy;
"Incident Management Framework- A major maritime emergency has the potential to pose significant challenges for responder organisations, both at sea and on shore. In addition, major maritime emergencies often have an international dimension, and may require liaison with neighbouring states. Strategic decisions for maritime incidents are taken in separate response cells and not by a single entity in charge. It is essential that clear arrangements are in place to provide liaison between strategic cells and for the effective co-ordination of the at-sea and on land response."

4.3 Annex VIII.3

3. Arrangements shall include provisions for responding to a major accident that potentially overwhelms the Member State or exceeds its boundaries by:

– **A. sharing external emergency response plans** with adjacent Member States and the Commission;

Croatia

The reference documents are:

- [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#);
- and the [Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for Prevention of, Preparedness for and Response to Major Marine Pollution Incidents in the Adriatic Sea](#).

The two documents are publicly available on the internet.

Cyprus

The [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#) is publicly available on the Internet.

ORFEAS refers to Annex VIII.3.A at:

- Section 2.9.9: International Emergency Assistance;
- Section 3.1: Notification of marine oil spill incidents;
- Section 2.7: Levels (Tiers) of Response.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.3.a is found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#), Annex 4:

"sharing external emergency response plans with adjacent countries and the European Commission".

References to Annex VIII.3.A are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

19) A description of the measures taken, if the needed response in connection with a spill exceeds the national capability or crosses the Danish border.

[...]"

22) A description of the submission of the external emergency response plan to the European Commission and Member States in the EU and third countries, which may be affected by a major accident.

[...]"

- Section 18. "The Danish Environmental Protection Agency shall prepare an overall external emergency response plan consisting of the external emergency response plan prepared pursuant to the Marine Environment Act and the external

emergency response plan prepared under the Offshore Safety Act and forward it to the European Commission as well as to other EU Member States and third countries, which may be affected by a major accident, cf. the Offshore Safety Act.”

Subsection 2. “The overall external emergency response plan, cf. 1, shall be published on the website of the Danish Environmental Protection Agency and the Danish Working Environment Authority, cf. Annex 2, item 2.”

Germany

Reference documentation is available at the [Havariekommando](#)'s website.

Greece

The sub-regional marine oil pollution contingency plan between Greece – Cyprus – Israel is under transposition into the Greek national legislation).

Ireland

Information related to Annex VIII.3.A is shared via website and with international agreements.

Italy

The National emergency response plan of Civil Protection Department, the Operational emergency response plan of the Ministry of the Environment and every individual Local emergency response plan of the Harbourmaster – Coast Guard Office are published on open internet site. Besides, there is a specific agreement between Italy, France and Monaco since 1993 in order to increase collaboration in the fight against pollution in the north of Tyrrhenian Sea: RamogePol Plan.

The Netherlands

Extensive cooperation between operators and owners of oil and gas installations nationally and in the Region (e.g. around the North Sea) has ensured good compatibility and interoperability of equipment and services. In addition, the Netherlands Coast Guard has agreements and plans in place with neighbouring countries, e.g: Joint Danish-German-Dutch Response Plan to maritime incidents involving Oil and other Harmful Substances and Co-operation in Aerial Surveillance DENGERNETH Plan (North Sea Area), Joint Communication and command plan, Aerial Surveillance and the quick response plan of the authorities from Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands.

Poland

This is not addressed in the National Contingency Plan. A brief description of the national response system is presented in the EMSA Inventories is available at the Agency’s website.

Portugal

Portugal participates in the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), thus ensuring the sharing of the External Emergency Response Plan with the European Commission and Member States. More information is available at: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies/emsa_en.

Romania

When the internal response facilities are not sufficient and satisfactory, the modality to require the external support is well established in the [National Contingency Plan](#) and also the modality of delivering response support at the request of an affected MS.

United Kingdom

According to [DECC and HSE Consultation Document \(2014\)](#):

Chapter 4 [4.3]: *"It is considered that the information and guidance contained in the [\(IOER\)](#) and [NCP](#) meets the requirements of the Annex and that their publication on the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's (MCA) website will meet the requirement of making the external plan available to all." The IOER is published on the EPOL website (www.epolgroup.co.uk), the [NCP](#) is published on www.gov.uk, thereby meeting the requirement of making the external plan available to all."*

- **B. compiling at cross-border level the inventories of response assets**, both industry and publicly owned, and all necessary adaptations to make equipment and procedures compatible between adjacent countries and Member States;

Croatia

The list of equipment and resources are publicly available on the internet.

Cyprus

According to the [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\)](#):

- [Chapter 7 \[7.5\]](#): JRCC cooperation with other countries.

The Republic of Cyprus is party to several international SAR agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major search and rescue incidents: Cyprus/Greece SAR Agreement, Cyprus/Syria SAR Agreement, Cyprus/Israel SAR Agreement, Cyprus/Egypt SAR Agreement.

JRCC Larnaca informs the industry regarding the SOPs during the annual Table-top exercises and the exercise NEMESIS in the field.

In addition, [ORFEAS](#) refers to Annex VIII.3.B in section 2.9.9 - International Emergency Assistance.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.3.B is found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#), Annex 4:

"compiling cross-border inventories of response assets, including those owned by the offshore oil and gas industry and publicly owned assets, and all necessary adaptations to make equipment and procedures compatible between adjacent countries."

References to Annex VIII.3.B are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

23) Lists of state and enterprise owned emergency response equipment and procedures in neighboring EU Member States and, if possible, neighboring countries, and a description of the adjustments necessary to ensure compatibility.

"[...]"

Germany

Information is available at [Havariekommando](#)'s website.

Greece

Not addressed.

Ireland

According to the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- [Appendix B](#): International assistance and co-operation

"Ireland is party to several international agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major marine pollution incidents. This appendix provides a summary of them."

- Appendix R: National oil spill response equipment:

"The equipment is intended for use in Ireland but may be offered abroad to assist other States. It is recognised that, in the event of a major spill, the equipment to hand may not be sufficient to cope and further stocks may be required. To counter any such shortfall, IRCG has an agreement with OSRL (See Section 6) to provide additional equipment and technical expertise at short notice. In addition recourse may be made to neighbouring countries through Bonn Agreement or the EU via CECIS. The equipment is maintained under contract with an outside company and is required to be available fully operational when called upon."

- Chapter 1.4: Areas Covered

"This plan covers all incidents in, or likely to affect, the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)".

Italy

These activities are coded in the National emergency response plan of Civil Protection Department (Ref. 3.3.1 – Duties of the Department at central level), and in the Operational emergency response plan of the Ministry of the Environment (Ref. Chapter.5 – International cooperation).

Besides, there is a specific agreement between Italy, France and Monaco since 1993 in order to increase collaboration in the fight against pollution in the north of Tyrrhenian Sea: RamogePol Plan.

The Netherlands

Chapter 5.3 of the IBP covers this subject partly from the view of the authorities. This part describes the cooperation mechanisms in the incident command structure.

The Joint Danish-German-Dutch Response Plan to maritime incidents involving Oil and other Harmful Substances and Co-operation in Aerial Surveillance, the DENGERNETH Plan (North Sea Area), Joint Communication and command plan, Aerial Surveillance and the quick response plan of the authorities from Denmark, Germany and The Netherlands are all relevant to this point.

Also, companies' internal emergency plans have a chapter fully covering cooperation between the response teams, the authorities and the company. The compatibility of equipment is a part of the plans and also is tested by means of different exercises.

Poland

The requirements of Annex VIII.3.B are partly covered in the National Contingency Plan - Appendix C: Providing Assistance, Internal and International Cooperation [p. C.1 to C.5 - International cooperation]

"In the field of pollution prevention, the Republic of Poland is a party to several international conventions. In addition, the SAR Service is an international and national operational agreement."

Convention of the OPRC obliges the state to maintain readiness and conduct counteractions against oil pollution incidents. It also imposes an obligation to define the minimum forces and counter measures, and sets the framework for international cooperation in combating pollution at sea, Helsinki Convention 1992."

Portugal

The activity of the Combat Marine Pollution Service (SCPM) is also based on a number of international commitments undertaken by Portugal, namely the Lisbon Agreement for Combating Transboundary Sea Pollution.

The Lisbon Agreement - Cooperation for the Protection of the Coasts and Waters of the North-East Atlantic against Pollution, is a tool that seeks to articulate cooperation between Portugal, Spain, France, Morocco and the European Community to deal with incidents of marine pollution due to spills of hydrocarbons or other harmful substances in the Northwest Atlantic region.

Additional information may be consulted at <https://www.dgpm.mm.gov.pt/acordo-lisboa>.

Romania

The response resources may be made with neighbouring countries through Regional Black Sea Contingency Plan or the EU via CECIS (The Common Emergency Communication and Information System).

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 4 [4.3]: The document International Assistance and Co-operation
"Plan covers all incidents in, or likely to affect, the United Kingdom Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the United Kingdom Continental Shelf (UKCS)."
- Chapter 12 [12.3]:
"Where ship owners, operators of offshore installations, port/harbour authorities and oil handling facilities face pollution incidents that exceed the response capabilities that they can reasonably maintain (especially in the provision of counter pollution equipment and personnel), additional capability may need to be brought to bear. Similarly, local or regional coastal authorities and commercial pollution response contractors may become overwhelmed and require equipment or expertise beyond their capabilities. In all such events additional response capability may be obtainable directly from other accredited pollution response contractors or the use of national assets may be requested via the MCA."
- Chapter 13 [13.5-13.9]:
"National pollution response assets are controlled by the MCA and, when used in incident response, are normally managed by the MCA's Marine Response Centre (MRC). A list of Actions foreseen by the MCA MRC in utilising national assets is provided".

– C. procedures for invoking the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to Annex VIII.3.C at Point 35: "Providing technical resources and services for the implementation of measures for preventing and restricting marine pollution

"The following technical resources and services shall be provided for the implementation of procedures for predicting, as well as for the implementation of measures for preventing and restricting sea pollution:

- ✓ *radiocommunication network at sea (MRCC-Rijeka, port captain and coastal radio stations),*
- ✓ *metereological service (Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Maritime Meteorological Service),*
- ✓ *Service for monitoring of sea currents (Hydrographical Institute of the Republic of Croatia),*
- ✓ *Service for search and rescue (SAR) at sea (Service for Search and Rescue in the Republic of Croatia),*
- ✓ *Vessel Traffic Management Information System (VTMIS) (MRCC-Rijeka),*
- ✓ *Vessels, equipment and strike teams in case of assistance and support to ship in distress, marine pollution and fire at sea (legal persons and natural persons, National Protection and Rescue Directorate - Fire Fighting Service),*
- ✓ *Port reception facilities for ship generated waste (port authorities),*
- ✓ *Reception facilities for recovered (polluted) material from the sea and shore (COCs in cooperation with competent county bodies, as well as legal persons and natural persons),*
- ✓ *Shoreline clean-up personnel (legal persons and natural persons, National Protection and Rescue Directorate - Civil Protection Service and, if necessary, volunteers),*
- ✓ *emergency medical services for providing first aid and care to injured persons (emergency rescue and medical institutions),*
- ✓ *responsible services for securing the polluted areas (at sea and/or on the shore) imposing fishing bans as well as for restricting movement and activities of unauthorised persons in those marine areas (central state administrative body competent for internal affairs). County contingency plans contain lists of overall equipment and resources with defined locations and quantities of equipment and resources owned by a county as well as by legal persons and natural persons who participate or may participate in the response operations upon request by a COC or the Headquarters".*

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VIII.3.C is found in [ORFEAS in the following](#):

- [Appendix 2](#): The mobilization procedure via CECIS and ERCC of DG ECHO - Step by Step Procedure for the Mobilization of assistance;
- Section 2.6.2.2: Cyprus Civil Defence (CCD).

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.3.C is found in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations, in Annex 4 - "Procedures for invoking the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism."](#)

References to Annex VIII.3.C are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- Section 16, subsection 2. The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

" [...]

20) A description of the procedures for alerting the Civil Protection Scheme of the European Union.

[...]"

Germany

Reference may be found at [Havariekommando's website](#) (CCME).

Greece

References are present in Chapter 1.2.5 of [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances":

"For dealing with marine pollution incidents an escalated activation of the combating mechanisms is adopted, based on the national system comprising three levels of mobilisation..."

Ireland

Reference to the requirements of Annex VIII.3.C is provided in the [Irish National Contingency Plan](#):

- Appendix B - International assistance and co-operation

"Ireland is party to several international agreements which provide for co-operation in dealing with major marine pollution incidents. This appendix provides a summary of them."

Italy

These activities are coded in the National emergency response plan of Civil Protection Department, in the Operational emergency response plan of the Ministry of the Environment and in every individual Local Emergency Response Plan of the Harbormaster – Coast Guard Office.

The Netherlands

The incident coordinating entity (for employing response equipment and services) is the Netherlands Coast Guard, while the owner of the equipment is ministry of Infrastructure and Water management. All equipment is listed on a secured online site, European Commission's Common Emergency Community Information System (CECIS) for Marine Pollution. All authorised institutions can access this site. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/CECIS/login.jsp>. Equipment may be made available upon request.

Procedures for invoking the Union Civil Protection Mechanism are described in the operational search and rescue plan by the Netherlands Coast Guard: <https://www.kustwacht.nl/nl/nieuwsbericht20072016.html>

Poland

The general principle of NCP is to follow HELCOM Manual on Co-operation in Response to Marine Pollution within the framework of the Helsinki Convention, where EU is the party to this convention and ERCC is the contact point. Additionally, the use of CECIS-MP is exercised on a regular basis.

Portugal

In the External Emergency Response Plan - Clean Sea Plan - mechanisms for mobilization, aid and technical support are defined, including the activation of the European Civil Protection Mechanism, that are addressed at a high ministerial level.

Romania

Information, assistance, support and cooperation at EU level are provided via CECIS (The Common Emergency Communication and Information System).

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 7 [7.8.2]:

"Under the Civil Contingencies Act regime there is a generic national framework for managing emergency response on land which remains flexible enough to be adapted to the needs of any threat to United Kingdom coastal resources. Chapter 4 of the Government's non statutory guidance to the Civil Contingencies Act Emergency Response and Recovery document describes the national framework."

- Chapter 4:

"Areas covered: The document International Assistance and Co-operation provides a summary of the bilateral and multilateral International assistance and co-operation agreements currently in force."

- Chapter 10:

"A brief outline of the two main response groups which would most likely be formed for a major threat from the marine environment is provided."

- Chapter 19 [19.2]:

"It should be noted that the land based consequences of a maritime incident may well affect more than one local authority. The introduction of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 enabled the formation of a wide area, multi-agency, policy and planning body named the Local Resilience Forum in England and Wales (Scotland follows a similar response structure without these forums). Northern Ireland has a Civil Contingencies Framework. In emergency response these forums bring together strategic leadership from relevant organisations to form a Strategic Co-ordinating Group which takes overall responsibility for the multi-agency management of an emergency and establishes the policy and strategic framework for response and recovery."

– **D. arranging transboundary exercises** of external emergency response.

Croatia

[The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\)](#) refers to this requirement at Point 102:

"All persons designated to participate in the Contingency Plan must be trained and qualified for its implementation. Training is conducted through training courses and demonstration exercises on both national and regional levels which are organised by the Headquarters or COCs, as well as on the international level which are organised through the implementation of the Sub-regional Plan or by international organisations (REMPEC, EMSA and alike)."

Cyprus

Reference to Annex VIII.3.D is given in:

- [JRCC SOPs](#) - Paragraphs 4.1, 5.1,5.2, 5.3
JRCC organizes and coordinates annually the multinational exercise "NEMESIS", which examines any kind of emergency regarding the offshore installations;
- [ORFEAS](#) – Section 2.9.10: Training and Exercises.

Denmark

Reference to Annex VIII.3.D is given in [Executive Order on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) , in Annex 4: "Arranging transboundary exercises of external emergency response."

References to Annex VIII.3.D are also reflected within [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015](#) on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms, as follows:

- [Section 16, subsection 2](#). The external emergency response plan shall be prepared in accordance with Annex 2.

Annex 2:

1. The external emergency response plan shall contain the following information:

"[...]"

21) A description of how and how often cross-border exercises on the external response are conducted, including which authorities and operators of oil and gas installations that participate in such exercises.

"[...]"

Germany

Exercises are performed when and where relevant under participation of the competent authority (LBEG).

Greece

The sub-regional marine oil pollution contingency plan between Greece – Cyprus – Israel is under transposition into the Greek national legislation).

Ireland

The information referred to in Annex VIII.3.D is kept and distributed via CECIS to Member States, Commission and EMSA. Activation of information, request for information/resources for maritime emergencies,

communication to and with MS is conducted via CECIS. This information is recorded and kept by EMSA.

Italy

These activities are coded in the Operational emergency response plan of the Ministry of the Environment (Ref. Cap.14 – PERIODIC EXERCISES AND TRAINING).

Besides, there is a specific agreement between Italy, France and Monaco since 1993 in order to increase collaboration in the fight against pollution in the north of Tyrrhenian Sea where joint exercises are planned: RamogePol Plan.

The Netherlands

A yearly (multidisciplinary) emergency exercise, including evaluation and proposals for improvement is part of the appointments with the NOGEPa. If relevant and appropriate, authorities of the neighbouring countries will be requested for assistance.

During the OFFEX exercise in 2017 (a large scale multidisciplinary offshore exercise in The Netherlands), the Norwegian Coast Guard was requested to assist the Netherlands Coast Guard.

Poland

According to the National Contingency Plan:

- Annex G: Training and Exercises

"The International Maritime Organization recognizes that a high level of training is one of the basic factors guaranteeing both correct exploitation of the sea, as well as the effectiveness and security of conducting the rescue actions."

Portugal

In order to maintain the necessary technical and operational levels, the SCPM organizes and/or regularly participates in exercises and simulacra, in Portugal and abroad. The exercises in which the SCPM participates involve means of the National Maritime Authority, the Port Administrations, national companies connected to the sea, ships registered by EMSA or other naval means of similar organizations of neighbouring countries. Additional information may be found at <http://www.amn.pt/DCPM/Paginas/Exercicios.aspx>.

Romania

National and transboundary exercises are conducted according with the provisions of the [National Contingency Plan](#).

United Kingdom

According to [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#):

- Chapter 4.3 - the link to [International Assistance and Co-operation](#) is provided.

The document International Assistance and Co-operation provides a summary of the bilateral and multilateral International assistance and co-operation agreements currently in force. The MCA's Duty Operations Director and Counter Pollution and Salvage (CPS) Branch discharge all obligations under these agreements. They also inform other neighbouring Coastal States of any pollution threat to their waters or shoreline, and co-ordinate any requests for international assistance.

5 Table of Member States' compliance

Member State ¹	National EERP	Art 29							Annex VII								Annex VIII										
		29.1	29.2	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.7	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	1.A	1.B	1.C	1.D	1.E	1.F	2	3.A	3.B	3.C	3.D
Croatia	NO	√	N/a	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	N/a	√	√	√	N/a	√	√	N/a	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Cyprus	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Denmark	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Germany	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Greece	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	N/a	√	√	√	√	√	√	N/a	√	√
Ireland	YES	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Italy	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
The Netherlands	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Poland	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Portugal	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Romania	NO	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	N/a	√	√	N/a	√	√	√	√	√	√
United Kingdom	YES	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bulgaria	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
France	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
Finland	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
Latvia	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
Lithuania	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
Malta	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									
Spain	NO	No reply to questionnaire																									

¹ The questionnaire was not submitted to Belgium, Estonia and Sweden because no appointed representatives at the EUOAG are available

6 Conclusions

Article 29 of the Offshore Safety Directive requires Member States to prepare, in cooperation with the relevant operators or owners and, as appropriate, licensees and the competent authority, external emergency response plans (EERPs) covering all offshore oil and gas installations or connected infrastructure and potentially affected areas within their jurisdiction. Moreover, Article 29 requires that EERPs shall be made available to the European Commission, other Member states and the public.

In a number of cases, the requirements of Article 29 are reflected (or partly reflected) in the existing national operational procedures and plans in place, such as National Contingency Plans, Marine Pollution Response Plans, Search and Rescue Plans.

The Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) has mandated the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) to analyse Member States' existing operational plans, which are relevant to the offshore emergency response, identify possible overlaps, uncertainties or gaps in the roles of the Member States' various bodies involved in the EERPs and assess whether these plans comply with the OSD.

The report offers a preliminary analysis of compliance of the existing situation regarding external offshore emergency response plans with the requirements of Article 29 and Annexes VII and VIII of the Offshore Safety Directive.

This report will be the basis for the next phase of the project assignment, which will deal with the provision to Member States, upon their request, of a service of advisory support to guide and assist them in the preparation of their national offshore external emergency response plans.

List of abbreviations

BEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (UK)
CCME	Central Command for Maritime Emergencies – Havariekommando (DE)
CECIS	Common Emergency Communication and Information System
CGOC	Coastguard Operations Centre (UK)
DCPM	Sea Pollution Response Directorate (PT)
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change (UK)
DFMR	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (CY)
DGAM	Direção-Geral da Autoridade Marítima (PT)
DMS	Department of Merchant Shipping (CY)
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
ERCC	Emergency Response Coordination Centre
IAMSAR	Irish Aeronautical & Maritime Search and Rescue (IE)
JRCC	Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (CY)
IBP	Incident Besprijdingsplan Noordzee (NL)
LBEG	State Authority for Mining, Energy and Geology (DE)
LKN-SH	Schleswig-Holstein Agency for Coastal Defence, National Park and Marine Conservation (DE)
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency (UK)
MRCC	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (HR)
MS	Member State
NCP	National Contingency Plan
NMOC	National Maritime Operations Centre (IE)
OPEP	Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (UK)
OSRL	Oil Spill Response Ltd. (NL)
POLREP	Pollution Report
REMPEC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
SAR	Search and Rescue
SCPM	Serviço do Combate à Poluição do Mar (PT)
SRC	Shoreline Response Centre (IE)
SRUs	Search and Rescue Units (CY)
SodM	State Supervision of Mines (NL)
SOSREP	Secretary of State's Representative (UK)

Annexes

Annex 1. List of MS documentation on External Emergency Response Planning

Croatia

- [The Contingency Plan for Accidental Marine Pollution \(2008\) \(HR\)](#)
The plan covers aspects of marine pollution.
- [The Offshore Safety Act \(EN\)](#)
The provisions of this Act address the prevention of major accidents in the course of offshore exploration and production of hydrocarbons.
- Agreement on the [Sub-Regional Contingency Plan for Prevention of, Preparedness for and Response to Major Marine Pollution Incidents in the Adriatic Sea \(EN\)](#)

Cyprus

- [National search and rescue plan "NEARCHOS" \(N.S.R.P\) \(EN\)](#)
This document is the national search and rescue plan, available online
- [Joint Rescue Coordination Centre \(JRCC\) Standard Operating Procedures \(EN\)](#)
JRCC SOPs is an Internal Document
- [ORFEAS \(EN\)](#)
This document is the national contingency plan for oil pollution combating (Nov. 2017, word doc)
- [ASPIDA \(EN\)- Confidential](#)
The document is a national plan for terrorism action.

Denmark

The national EER plan is under preparation. Available documentation is listed as follows:

- [Executive Order 1197 of 23 October, 2015 on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations \(EN\)](#)
- [Executive Order No. 1379 of 4 December 2017 on Emergency Response etc. in connection with Offshore Oil and Gas Operations](#) has replaced Executive Order 1197, Executive order 1379 entered into force on 1 January 2018. The provisions concerning external preparedness have not been changed in this new executive order.
- [Executive Order on the Rules of Procedure of the Preparedness of the Authorities pursuant to the Offshore Safety Act \(DK\)](#)
- [Consolidated Act no. 125 of 6 February 2018 - The Offshore Safety Act \(EN\)](#)
- [Act amending the Offshore Safety Act and the Continental Shelf Act1 \(DK\)](#)
- [Act No. 1033 on the Protection of the Marine Environment of 4 September 2017 \(Marine Environment Act\) \(DK\)](#)
- [Executive Order No. 909 of 10 July 2015 on Emergency Response in connection with Pollution of the Sea from Oil and Gas Installations, Pipelines and Other Platforms . \(DK\)](#)
- [Executive Order No. 874 of 27 June 2016 on reporting pursuant to the Act on the Protection of the Marine Environment.\(DK\)](#)

Note from Danish EPA: "Any text in the report referring to the Marine Environment Act and the two executive orders issued according to this act are unofficial translations. The links above refer to the legally valid version in Danish."

Germany

- [Havariekommando - Central Command for maritime emergencies](#) **(DE/EN)**

The website refers to the CCME that is a joint institution of the German Federal Government and the Federal Coastal States. It was established to set up and carry out a mutual maritime emergency management in the North Sea and in the Baltic Sea.

- [Federal Mining Act \(BBergG\)](#) **(DE/EN)**

This purpose of this Act is: 1. to ensure the availability of raw materials by managing and promoting the exploration, extraction and processing of mineral resources with a view to geographical constraints and sustainable mining while applying economical and low-impact technology 2. to ensure the safety of mining operations and employees, and 3. to strengthen precautions against risks to human life, health or to third-party equipment and materials arising from mining activities and to improve the compensation of unavoidable damage.

Greece

- [Presidential Decree 11/2002](#) "National Contingency Plan for combating pollution incidents by oil and other harmful substances" (available only in Greek) **(EL)**
- [Law 4409/2016](#) (available only in Greek) **(EL)**

Ireland

- [Irish National Contingency Plan](#) **(EN)**

The document is a draft of National Contingency Plan an officially published version was not found, as per web search, 2013_Jan.

- [The Irish National Maritime Search and Rescue Framework](#) **(EN)**

The purpose of this 'National Maritime SAR Framework' is to provide a simple and clear guidance document for Irish Marine Search and Rescue (SAR) and is divided into the Framework and the Organisation of maritime SAR in Ireland. In Part one, Maritime SAR covers emergency events occurring in the Irish Search and Rescue Region up to the high water mark, within ports as applicable and on the inland waterways as agreed with An Garda Síochána. Part two provides details of the organisation of search and rescue in Ireland.

Further information on external emergency response plans and emergency preparedness is set out in the following pieces of legislation:

- [Sea Pollution Amendment Act 1999](#)
 - 2 (2) provides a legislative basis for the submission of their plan for the prevention and minimisation of damage arising out of an oil pollution incident occurring on an offshore unit.
- [Sea Pollution \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 2006](#)
 - Provides legislative powers to ensure that operators of Offshore Installations have Emergency Plans in place

The Coast Guard and the Department are a signatory to the Major Emergency Framework Document which underpins all major National Emergencies.
<http://mem.ie/documents-reports/>

Italy

- [Italian National Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Defense against Marine Pollution of Hydrocarbons or Other Harmful Substances caused by Marine Accidents \(IT\)](#)

National Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Defense against Marine Pollution of Hydrocarbons or Other Harmful Substances caused by Marine Accidents, approved by DPCM November 4, 2010 by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Civil Protection Department.

- [Emergency intervention plan for the protection of the sea and coastal areas from accidental pollution from hydrocarbons and other harmful substances \(IT\)](#)

Emergency intervention plan for the protection of the sea and coastal areas from accidental pollution from hydrocarbons and other harmful substances, approved by DM 29 January 2013 of the Ministry of the Environment and the protection of the territory and the sea.

- [Local emergency intervention plans prepared by each Head of the Maritime Compartment \(IT\)](#)

Local emergency intervention plans prepared by each Head of the Maritime Compartment (55), as far as sea operations are concerned, and in accordance with provincial emergency plans as far as pollution on the coast is concerned.

The Netherlands

- [Incidentbestrijdingsplan Noordzee \(NL\)](#)

The North Sea external emergency plan (only available in Dutch).

- [NOGEP Standard 31 \(Annex 4\)\(2016\) \(EN\)](#)

Poland

- [The National Contingency Plan for Poland \(pdf doc /PL\)](#)
- [Regulation Council of Ministers 2017 \(PL\)](#)

The document is an ordinance of the Minister's Council from August 8, 2017 on the organization of combating threats and pollution at sea.

Portugal

- [Plano Externo de Resposta a Emergência - Plano Mar Limpo \(PT\)](#)

The document provides guidelines for the External Emergency Response Plan – Clean Sea Plan:

- Structure and organization;
- Human, naval, operational logistics and means of intervention and international support;
- Levels of coordination, degrees of readiness and response to accidents;
- Technical documentation: conventions and agreements, circulars and manuals;
- Training

Romania

- [Black Sea Contingency Plan 2005](#) **(EN)**

The document provides guidelines on the Black Sea Contingency Plan to the Protocol on Cooperation in Combating Pollution of the Black Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Emergency Situations

- [Romanian National Contingency Plan 2002 amended 2006](#) **(RO)**

The National Contingency Plan is already published and covers marine oil pollution response aspects.

United Kingdom

- [The National Contingency Plan \(2015\)](#) **(EN)**

A strategic overview for responses to marine pollution from shipping and offshore installations.

- [DECC and HSE Consultation Document\(2014\)](#) **(EN)**

Consultation on the implementation of Directive 2013/30/EU on the safety of offshore oil and gas operations.

- [IOER](#) **(EN)**

IOER Plan contains Procedures and guidance intended to cover the Search and Rescue (SAR) emergency response to an offshore oil and gas industry incident throughout the UK Search & Rescue Region (UK SRR).

Annex 2. RACI matrix

Emergency response in case of a calamity in the offshore industry (part of external emergency plan EU) Rev: 22/03/16 (English)

During: drilling, production, maintenance or construction various scenario's can occur on mobile or fixed offshore installations as a result of e.g. collision, explosion, blowout, etc. In any case the oil and/or gas producers and the relevant Authorities need to be prepared for having to undertake the following activities:

1. to rescue people and bring people into safety;
2. extinguishing of fires;
3. the cleaning-up of oil in the sea, on beaches or in harbours and all that goes with it;
4. securing the (offshore) installation;
5. well capping / killing;
6. well containment;
7. drilling a relief well.

For each of these activities both the oil and gas industry need to check

- what equipment is necessary, mobilisation time, capacity etc.
- which expertise is necessary, which capacity, replacement etc.
- which organisation is required for this.
- how during these scenario's/activities one tunes-into each other and works together on the basis of a clear distribution of tasks
- how in this communication in all its aspects needs to be organized

Distribution of roles/ tasks

To aid a systematic description of roles/ tasks the RACI system is used:

RACI

R (responsible): organisation(s) which are the owner of the problem and need to do the work. One needs to answer to the organisation which is 'accountable';

A (accountable authority): the organisation which has the authority to take the final decision, has the veto right;

C (consulted): the organisation which is to be consulted beforehand and who helps giving direction to the result (always two-way communication);

I (inform): organisation which is informed after the fact: about the decisions which have been taken, progress made, results which have been achieved (one way communication).

Disclaimer: this RACI system and the distribution of roles/tasks which are given below bear no relation with the liability of the various organisations.

Notes corresponding to the tables underneath:

note 1: company is responsible for mobilisation and use of own lifesaving equipment on board and in vicinity of platform;

note 2: coastguard is responsible for mobilisation, use and coordination of all other extra means;

note 3: DC/I&M gets information from RWS Sea and Delta & RBN and contacts/involves DC/EZ;

note 4: SodM informs (regularly) EZ (depending on the severity, either DGETM/DC/minister EZ);

note 5: company has its own responsibility and policies regarding external communication, however ... ;

note 6: government authorities have their responsibilities regarding external communication in case of calamities, therefore it is absolutely necessary to coordinate between the two parties. First responsibility is with the OT of the coastguard. In case of scaling up it goes to chairman RBN/DC-I&M or to SodM/DC-EZ (in case of the latter DC-EZ informs DC-I&M);

note 7: SodM informs RBN chairman on a daily basis or more frequent if necessary.

note 8: company is responsible for its own (hired) personnel and clean-up equipment (under RWS coordination);

note 9: RWS is responsible for its own personnel and equipment and for the overall coordination of all clean-up activities.

note 10: coastguard is responsible for traffic on North Sea (in case of mobilising mobile drilling units) / RWS Z&D is responsible for location permit / impact on water quality).

General notes:

NB1: foot notes in the yellow rows apply in principle to the entire column (where relevant)

NB2: it is the responsibility of RBN to inform all their members

NB3: 'Company' means the operator or owner

NB4: RBN has no independent authority: the chairman of the RBN is also the director of Rijkswaterstaat Sea and Delta (HID: hoofd ingenieur directeur), he is in charge.

Abbreviations:

DC: Directorate Communication / EZ (Economische Zaken): Ministry of Economic Affairs / ER: Emergency Response / I&M (Infrastructuur en Milieu): Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment/ LVNL: (Amsterdam) Dutch Air Traffic Control / OT: Operational Team / RBN (Regionaal Beheersteam Noordzeerampen): Regional Management team North Sea disasters / RWS (Rijkswaterstaat) Z&D (Zee & Delta): Department of Waterways and Public Works Sea and Delta / sitrep: situation report / SodM (Staatstoezicht op de Mijnen): State Supervision of Mines

Emergency response in case of a calamity in the offshore industry (part of external emergency plan EU)

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations							
		Company	Authorities					Others	
			I&M			EZ			
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ		
1	rescue of people	competent government authority with final accountability		note 2	A				
		operations							
		1.1 serious incident reporting	R	I			I ₄		
		1.2 determine incident phase	I	R	C		I		
		1.3 monitoring the whereabouts of rig/platform personnel	C	R					
		1.4 dispatch SAR	I	R					
		1.5 dispatch KNRM	I	R					
		1.6 appoint on-scene commander (if required)	I	R					
		1.7 initial mobilization standby-boat (FRC)	R ₁	I					
		1.8 mobilise other ships	I	R					
		1.9 check safety for rescue operations (sea & air / including establishing larger safety zone)	C	R			C		
		1.10 evacuation by helicopter	C	R					
		1.11 evacuation by lifeboat	R ₁	I					
		1.12 rescue from sea by helicopter	I	R					
		1.13 rescue from sea by standby boat (FRC)	I	R					
		1.14 rescue from sea by other vessels	I	R					
		1.15 rescue from lifeboat by helicopter	I	R					
		1.16 rescue from lifeboat by standby boat (FRC)	I	R					
		1.17 control over airspace		R					C (LVNL)
		1.18 determine VTS (Vessel Traffic System) necessity	I	R					
		communication							
		1.19 sitreps	I	R	I	I ₃	I ₄		
		1.20 informing next of kin	R				I		
		1.21 produce holding statement	R	I			I		
		1.22 produce press releases	C ₅	R ₆		R ₆			
		1.23 organise press conferences	C ₅	R ₆		R ₆			

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations								
		Company	Authorities					Others		
			I&M			EZ				
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ			
2 fire fighting	competent government authority with final accountability operations				A					
	2.1	report fire	R	I	I		I ₄			
	2.2	mobilising boats with firefighting equipment	R	C						
	2.3	notices to mariners	I	R						
	2.4	appoint on-scene coordinator	R	C						
	2.5	set up a fire extinguishing plan	R	I			I			
	2.6	decision on extinguishing the fire	R	I	A		C			
	2.7	extinguishing the fire	R	I	I		I			
	communication									
	2.8	sitreps	I	R	I	I ₃	I ₄			
	2.9	produce holding statement (if applicable)	R	I	I		I			
	2.10	produce press releases	C ₅	R ₆		R ₆				
2.11	organise press conferences	C ₅	R ₆		R ₆					

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations						
		Company	Authorities					Others
			I&M			EZ		
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ	
3	oil clean-up	competent government authority with final accountability			A			
		operations						
	3.1	report Oil Spill	R	I	I		I ₄	
	3.2	verify extend of spill by air surveillance	C	R	C			
	3.3	prepare oil spill response plan	C	C	R ₉		I	
	3.4	mobilize spill clean-up vessels	I	C	R		I	
	3.5	appoint on scene coordinator	I	R	C			
	3.6	mobilize OSR equipment & personnel	R ₈	I	C		I	
	3.7	onshore/beach clean-up activities	I	I	R		I	C - munic.
	3.8	report on spill/clean-up activities progress	I	I	R		I	
	3.9	decision on use of dispersants	I	I	R		I	
	3.10	application of dispersants	I	I	R		I	
	3.11	after care clean-up vessels/equipment/emulsion	I	I	R			
	3.12	continued monitoring extent of pollution	I	I	R		I	
		communication						
	3.13	sitreps	I	R	I	I ₃	I ₄	
	3.14	produce holding statement (if applicable)	R	I			I	
	3.15	produce press releases	C ₅			R ₆	I	
	3.16	organise press conferences	C ₅			R ₆	I	

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations							
		Company	Authorities					Others	
			I&M			EZ			
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ		
4	secure installation	competent government authority with final accountability					A _{4,7}		
		operations							
		4.1	reconnaissance by expert team	R	I			A	
		4.2	securing and safeguarding installation	R				I	
		4.3	evaluating situation for future remedial operations	R	I			I	
		4.4	monitoring extent of pollution	I	I	R		I	
		communication							
		4.5	situation update (including actual information of status of installation/wells)	R	I			I ₇	
		4.6	produce holding statement (if applicable)	R				I	
		4.7	produce press releases	C ₅				C	R ₆
4.8	organise press conferences	C ₅				C	R ₆		

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations							
		Company	Authorities						Others
			I&M			EZ			
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ		
5	well capping / killing	competent government authority with final accountability					A _{4,7}		
		operations							
	5.1	create well control task force incl. experts	R				I		
	5.2	prepare plan of attack	R	C ₁₀	C ₁₀		C		
	5.3	decide on plan of attack	R	I	I		A		
	5.4	organize/conduct onsite survey	R	I			A		
		- survey vessel/diving support vessel							
		- well control surveyor							
		- ROV underwater inspection							
		- divers							
	5.5	source equipment & services	R				I		
		- cutting tools							
		- wellhead/ stinger							
		- capping stack							
		- pumping equipment							
		- secure crane barge							
	5.6	execute well capping activities	R	I			A		
	5.7	continued monitoring extent of pollution	I	I	R		I		
		communication							
	5.8	situation update	R	I	I		I		
	5.9	produce holding statement (if applicable)	R				I		
	5.10	produce press releases	C ₅				C	R ₆	
	5.11	organise press conferences	C ₅				C	R ₆	

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations						
		Company	Authorities					Others
			I&M			EZ		
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ	
6 well containment	competent government authority with final accountability						A _{4,7}	
	operations							
	6.1 divert gas to rig flare	R	I			A		
	6.2 prepare well containment plan	R	C ₁₀	C ₁₀		A		
	6.3 contain gas/fluids and direct stream to other facilities (installation/barge/vessel)	R	I			A		
	6.4 continued monitoring extent of pollution	I	I	R		I		
	communication							
	6.5 situation update	R	I	I		I		
	6.6 produce holding statement (if applicable)	R				I		
	6.7 produce press releases	C ₅				C	R ₆	
6.8 organise press conferences	C ₅				C	R ₆		

ER activities	Subactivities	Organisations							
		Company	Authorities						Others
			I&M			EZ			
			Coastguard (OT)	RWS Z&D (chairman RBN)	DC/I&M	SodM	DC/EZ		
7 drilling relief well(s)	competent government authority with final accountability operations						A _{4,7}		
	7.1	mobilize rig	R				I		
	7.2	secure well control expert advise	R						
	7.3	define spud location	R	C ₁₀	C ₁₀		I		
	7.4	prepare relief well programme (design)	R				C		
	7.5	decide on relief well programme	R				A		
	7.6	mobilise well equipment	R				I		
	7.7	mobilise drilling equipment	R				I		
	7.8	prepare drilling mud	R				I		
	7.9	mobilise ranging tools	R				I		
	7.10	continued monitoring extent of pollution	I	I	R		I		
	communication								
	7.11	situation update (drilling reports)	R				I		
	7.12	produce holding statement (if applicable)	R				I		
	7.13	produce press releases	C ₅				C	R ₆	
7.14	organise press conferences	C ₅				C	R ₆		

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