



Global Initiative for West and Central Africa

Report on the National Oil Spill Response Exercise for the testing of Nigeria National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

Hotel Bolingo, Abuja, Nigeria]
27-29 July 2011



Hosted by National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA)



NOTE

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Executive summary

Date: Abuja, Nigeria, 27-29 July 2011

Type: National

Organised by:

- National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)

Number of participants: 134

The principal objectives of the Workshop were to:

The main objective of this exercise was to test the NOSCP in order to identify necessary modifications to make sure that the plan is operational and efficient. More specifically, the objectives of this exercise were to test the following components of the plan:

- Notification and alert process (from spiller to NOSDRA, from NOSDRA to other Agencies);
- Role and responsibilities of the various organisations within the current NOSCP;
- Capacity of the NOSCP to assess the situation and identify relevant response strategies;
- Incident management system;
- Communications between the various agencies involved in the NOSCP and the ability to inform the public of the situation through media;

The results of the Workshop are as follows:

Participants have identified concrete recommendations in order to improve the current version of the NOSCP. It was recognized that the actual plan should to be updated to make it truly operational. At the conclusion of the Workshop, the participants agreed upon the following recommendations:

- 1) Re-define roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and identify clear deliverables expected from each stakeholder during an oil spill:**
ACTION: Stakeholders agreed to provide NOSDRA with a revised description of their roles in relation with oil spill response within the next quarter.
- 2) Establish a clear notification and activation list for all stakeholders:**
ACTION: Stakeholders agreed to provide NOSDRA with an updated list of emergency contacts (names, telephone, fax and emails). These should be operational contacts i.e. not a person but a number that is accessible on a 24-hour basis.
- 3) There is need to clarify quantities for tier response and the procedure for transfer of command between NIMASA, NOSDRA and IOCs when an incident escalates from Tier 1 to Tier 2 to Tier 3.**
ACTION: A working group composed of representatives from NOSDRA, NIMASA and IOCs will be formed to resolve this issue.
- 4) The NOSCP should be modified to include Incident Command System (ICS)/Incident Management System (IMS) as the command structure.**
ACTION: A committee made up of relevant stakeholders will be formed to evaluate how this type of command structure could be implemented in Nigeria.

Table of Contents

0

INTRODUCTION	4
OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP	4
PROGRAMME OF THE WORKSHOP	5
LOCATION, DATES, ROLES AND PARTICIPANTS	5
OPENING CEREMONY	6
SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION	6
<i>Introduction of workshop objectives and presentation of the GI WACAF Project</i>	6
<i>The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and the National incident command system</i>	6
<i>Oil industry oil spill response</i>	6
<i>Overview of Spill Response Strategies</i>	7
<i>Exercise objectives, logistic and rules</i>	7
<i>Exercise – arrangements and scenario</i>	7
EXERCISE DEBRIEFING – GROUP SUMMARY	9
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP	11
SUMMARY OF THE CLOSING CEREMONY	13
CONCLUSIONS	14
ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME	15
ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	17
ANNEX 3: OPENING SPEECHES	27
ANNEX 4: ASSESSMENT FORM	35
ANNEX 5: PICTURES	38

Introduction

The Global Initiative for West and Central Africa (GI WACAF) is a partnership between the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the International Petroleum Industry Environment Conservation Association (IPIECA) to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. A key innovative feature is emphasis the promotion of public/private partnership for effective oil spill response making use of existing industry expertise and resources.

The mission is to strengthen the national oil spill response capability in twenty-two countries in West and Central Africa through the establishment of local partnership between the oil industries and the national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness and response at national level.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) eight Oil Companies members (BP, Chevron, ENI, ExxonMobil, Marathon, PERENCO, Shell and Total) through the International Petroleum Environment Conservation Association (IPIECA) jointly fund this program.

The scope is to organise workshops, training, seminars and deployment exercises with national authorities in charge of oil spill response, in partnership with local business units.

The GI WACAF is based on an effective management system established six goals of preparedness and key performance indicators to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. These goals cover the requirements of the OPRC 90 convention:

Goal 1: Legislation: Promote the ratification of the relevant international Convention

Goal 2: Contingency plan: Have contingency plan for all the countries of the region

Goal 3: Designation of authority: Get clarity in roles and responsibilities for oil spill response

Goal 4: Regional agreement: promote exchange and mutual assistance for oil spill response

Goal 5: Training: Ensure that training and exercise are developed in each country on a regular basis

Goal 6: National capabilities: support countries in developing their own national response system

Objectives of the workshop

The National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) organized the National Oil Spill Response Exercise for the testing of Nigeria Oil Spill Contingency Plan from 27-29 July 2011 in Abuja, Nigeria. It was the first time that Nigeria was holding a Tier 3 type exercise in order to test its NOSCP. This exercise was part of the activities under the Nigerian Action Plan for the biennium 2010 – 2011 and it was aimed at strengthening the country's capacity for oil spill preparedness and response.

The main objective of this exercise was to test the NOSCP in order to identify necessary modifications to make the plan more operational and efficient. More specifically, the objectives of this exercise were to test the following components of the plan:

- Notification and alert process (from spiller to NOSDRA, from NOSDRA to other Agencies);

- Role and responsibilities of the various organisations within the current NOSCP;
- Capacity of the NOSCP to assess the situation and identify relevant response strategies;
- Incident management system;
- Communications between the various agencies involved in the NOSCP and the ability to inform the public of the situation through media;

Programme of the workshop

The programme for this workshop revolved around the exercise that took place on day 2. The first day of the workshop consisted of technical presentations to inform participants on Nigeria's NOSCP with an emphasis on role and responsibilities of the various stakeholders and the resources available from Nigeria's oil industry. An overview of the main response strategies available and instructions to participants for the exercise were also presented. The third day was dedicated to the exercise debriefing where participants worked together in syndicate groups to identify recommendations for the improvement of the NOSCP. This programme aimed at testing the NOSCP and promoting discussions and sharing of information between the facilitators and the participants. More specifically, the topics presented on day 1 were the following:

- Presentation of the GI WACAF project;
- Overview of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan;
- Oil industry oil spill response;
- Overview of oil spill response strategies;
- Exercise objectives, rules and logistic.

The complete program is found at Annex 1.

Location, Dates, Roles and Participants

The workshop was organised by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) with the technical and financial support of IMO and IPIECA.

The experts in charge of the workshop were:

- Stéphane Grenon, Triox Environmental Emergencies, Consultant to IPIECA
- Romain Chancerel, IPIECA

The National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) took care of the general organisation and the hosting of delegates.

The first and third day of the workshop took place in the conference room of Hotel Bolingo in Abuja while the exercise on day two took place in the NOSDRA office in Abuja.

The total number of participants was 134 with approximately 40 participants involved in the exercise. These were representing the oil and gas industry, State and Federal Government Agencies, the Academia and the private sector. The participant list is in Annex 2.

Opening Ceremony

Welcoming remarks were given by Sir Peter Idabor, Director General of NOSDRA, by Mr William Azuh, IMO representative and by Mr Gambo Jakada representing the Honourable Minister of the Environment, Mrs Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia.

These opening remarks reminded participants of the importance of this workshop towards the full implementation of Nigeria's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP). They underlined the historical importance of this exercise being the first activation of Nigeria's NOSCP and as an illustration of the continuous commitment of Nigeria towards the protection of the marine environment and for the improvement of its capacity to respond to oil spills. All the speakers acknowledged the stakeholders for their involvement and urged participants to engage fully to make this exercise a success. The importance of IMO's Conventions and particularly of OPRC 90 was also mentioned as an important tool for the implementation of an efficient oil spill response system in Nigeria. The efforts and support of IMO and IPIECA towards this goal were mentioned as well as the gratitude of IMO and IPIECA toward NOSDRA for the organisation of this workshop.

The full opening addresses are available at Annex 3.

Summary of presentation

Below is a summary of the presentations given during this workshop.

Introduction of workshop objectives and presentation of the GI WACAF Project

Mr Romain Chancerel, GI WACAF Project Coordinator, IPIECA

This presentation explained the scope and objectives of the GI WACAF Project with a focus on the important collaboration between IPIECA, IMO and the oil industry. The outcomes and findings of earlier activities and the improvements observed in the region as a result of the GI WACAF project were also discussed. The presentation concluded by introducing the work plan for the next two years of the project and by presenting the planning cycle for the project. Following this presentation, participants were reminded of the objectives of this workshop and had the opportunity to introduce themselves.

The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and the National incident command system

Mr I.O. Musa, Director OSDR, NOSDRA

The latest version of Nigeria's National Oil Spill Contingency Plan was presented to the participants with an emphasis on the authorities in charge, the National incident command system, the Tier response organization and the alerting system. The response options as well as the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders were also presented. This presentation provided a detailed overview of the NOSCP, which was useful for the participants in order to understand what will be expected of them during the exercise.

Oil industry oil spill response

Mr. Lanre Fakehinde, Chevron for Oil Producers Trade Section (OPTS)

This presentation gave an overview of the capacity of Nigeria's oil industry to respond to an oil spill. The main focus was on the alerting system and the sharing of resources through mutual aid agreements. The necessary

requirements such as safety, logistic and command structure before equipment or resources could be shared were also discussed as well as arrangements regarding costs. This presentation was a good reminder for the participants on oil spill response capacity available in Nigeria.

Overview of Spill Response Strategies

Mr. Stéphane Grenon, Consultant to IPIECA, Triox Environmental Emergencies

This presentation discussed the main response strategies that can be used when responding to an oil spill. The benefits and operational limitations of strategies such as spill monitoring, containment and recovery, chemical dispersants and shoreline cleanup operations were presented. Issues related to coordination, logistic and factors to consider before implementing a strategy were discussed as well. This presentation was a good opportunity for participants to learn more on these strategies but also to exchange information on the capacity available in Nigeria to implement these.

Exercise objectives, logistic and rules

Mr. Stéphane Grenon, Consultant to IPIECA, Triox Environmental Emergencies

This presentation reminded the participants about the exercise objectives, its logistics and a few applying rules. Participants were reminded that this tabletop exercise aimed at testing the NOSCP in order to identify areas for improvement or consolidation. The role of exercise controllers as well as the manner by which information would be injected into the exercise was also discussed in order for the participants to learn as much as possible from this experience.

Exercise – arrangements and scenario

Mr. Stéphane Grenon, Consultant to IPIECA, Triox Environmental Emergencies

The exercise was a tabletop exercise with no real deployment of equipment taking place. Weather and sea conditions were pre-determined and the exercise was not played in real time. Exercise controllers were there to make sure that information was injected accurately and used properly by the participants. They would also play various roles during the exercise to simulate the involvement of various stakeholders such as politicians, fishermen, ecologists, etc. It took place at the office of NOSDRA in Abuja with two participants from Shell located at their offices in Port Harcourt. Upon arrival, the participants were divided into three groups: one group for oil industry representatives who would play the spiller, one group for NOSDRA staff and one group for all of the other government agencies. These groups were placed into separate rooms as to mimic reality since all of these stakeholders would be at their respective offices at the beginning of an incident and would not be in direct contact with each other. NOSDRA staffs were located in the National Command Centre as identified in the NOSCP. The participants were brought into action as the scenario of the incident unfolds and as the spill manager required their expertise.

The scenario for the exercise involved a fictitious FPSO and VLCC. The scenario was the following:

VLCC True North (146,848 GT) while located at FPSO 145, located approximately 35km south of Bonny was loading cargo using a 24" flexible pipe at a flow rate of 56 bbls/hrs. Due to bad weather, a towing line between a tug and a crane barge is broken which cause the crane to drift and collide with VLCC True North. As a result of the collision, the flexible hose between the FPSO and the VLCC is severed and leaking. Eventually, as the scenario evolved, VLCC True North would report damages to port side cargo tanks No1, No3, No5 and would lost approximately 12,500 mt of Bonny light oil into the marine environment.



Figure 1: Incident location

The exercise was launched using the existing notification process in Nigeria i.e. calls were placed by the ship captain to NIMASA through the MRCC in Lagos while the FPSO workers informed the oil operator of the incident. Eventually, both organisations informed NOSDRA of the situation. Injects were used throughout the exercise to simulate various issues and preoccupations one must usually deal with during an incident.

Example of injects used during the exercise:

- Minister of environment is requesting an update on the situation especially on likely impacts and expected costs of response
- Five tankers are due to dock at Port Harcourt and request further instructions before approaching Bonny River
- The mayor of Bonny reports that citizens are complaining about strong odours near the beach. He requests instructions.
- Fishermen are in the affected area. They want to know if they can fish and sell their catches to the local market. Are they safe to eat?
- If fisheries are closed during the response, fishermen will want to know if they will receive compensation for their losses since they cannot fish? Is the Government going to pay them?
- The Press contacted the Minister of the Environment. He requests a briefing on the situation.
- The International Maritime Organization is inquiring if Nigeria is in need of international assistance. If so, could you provide information on specific needs at this time?
- International experts are preparing to come to Nigeria to provide assistance. A visa is necessary. Could you provide guidance on immigration procedures?

Aerial observations were also generated to provide an estimate of oil trajectory according to weather conditions and oil type.



Figure 2: Aerial observation report

The exercise ran for approximately 5 hours. This gave ample time for the participants to experience the various stages of a response and also to initiate multiple actions. This also enabled the participants to suitably test the NOSCP and to provide valuable comments toward its improvement.

Exercise debriefing – group summary

Following the exercise, participants had the opportunity to reflect on issues they experienced during the exercise. To conduct the debriefing, participants remained in the group they were during the exercise i.e. one group for NOSDRA staff, one group for oil companies representatives and one group for other governmental agencies. Taking into consideration the main objectives of the exercise, participants were asked to identify 5 issues that went well and 5 issues where improvements are needed in the NOSCP. Exercise controllers and facilitators also provided some comments.

Comments from group 1: other governmental agencies:

What went well?

- This group identify the fact that an exercise was organized as a very positive step. They also appreciate the active involvement of all the stakeholders during the exercise.

What needs to be improved?

- A clear notification process should be included in the plan with 24hours/7days contact details;
- Many stakeholders were informed too late during the exercise;
- Roles, responsibilities and capacities of agencies are not detailed enough in the plan. It was difficult during the exercise to know who can provide specific information;
- The assessment of the situation was poor because of a lack of coordination;
- The Police should be invited in the future;
- Facilities used for the command center were not adequate and NOSDRA should consider using existing facilities at the army headquarters;

Comments from group 2: oil companies:

What went well?

- Very good to have an exercise;
- Active participation of NOSDRA top management;
- Good media coverage;
- NOSDRA call center was working.

What needs to be improved?

- Inputs from the various stakeholders were not available because of problems with communications;
- No Incident Command System implemented;
- Environmental Sensitivity Index maps were not available;
- Facilities for the command center were not adequate (space and equipment);
- The process for the passage of a Tier 1 incident to Tier 2 and Tier 3 was not clearly defined and understood;
- No involvement from State and local governments;
- Poor communications.

Comments from group 3: NOSDRA

What went well?

- Response capability of stakeholders
- Coordination of response
- Communication system
- Stakeholder's involvement
- Engagement of public affairs

What needs to be improved?

- Roles and responsibilities are not detailed enough;
- Difficulty to manage time;
- Facilities of the command center were inadequate;
- Lack of response equipment in Nigeria;

- Incident reporting

Comments from exercise controllers:

What went well?

- Teamwork within the various groups responding to the incident;
- Availability of resources/expertise from the various agencies;
- Issues were addressed in most cases.

What needs to be improved?

- Command structure is inappropriate to respond to an oil spill. This prevented the proper coordination of actions and created multiple difficulties in sharing information, assessing the situation, identifying sensitivities and strategies;
- Notification process is not well defined and contact lists are inexistent. This creates particular difficulties in contacting the various stakeholders in a timely manner;
- Roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders involved in the response are not clearly defined and understood. Because of this, many stakeholders were not proactive but rather waiting for instructions before completing a task;
- There is no clear process for the passage of command when an incident escalates from a Tier 1 to Tier 2 to Tier 3;
- The line of command was not known and understood by most participants. It was not clear who was in charge of the response.

Recommendations of the Workshop

A plenary discussion followed the presentation of the exercise debriefing from the various groups. From this discussion the participants identified concrete recommendations in order to improve the current version of the NOSCP. It was recognized that the actual plan needed to be updated to make it operational. At the conclusion of the Workshop, the participants agreed upon the following recommendations:

1) Re-define roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and identify clear deliverables expected from each stakeholder during an oil spill:

The current version of the NOSCP does not include detailed definition of the roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in a response. The current description is too generic and describes the organization mandate rather than specific functions to be carried out during an emergency. Furthermore, stakeholders are not aware of what is expected of them during an oil spill. The description of roles and responsibilities needs to be detailed specifically for oil spill response and should include a description of the expected deliverables. It is also suggested to create “reflex cards” that would provide each stakeholders with a checklist of what they should do when responding to an oil spill.

ACTION: Stakeholders agreed to provide NOSDRA with a revised description of their roles in relation with oil spill response within the next quarter.

2) Establish a clear notification and activation list for all stakeholders:

In the current version of the NOSCP, it is mentioned that all oil spill incidents should be reported to NOSDRA. However, there is neither a clear mechanism nor contact list to activate the relevant

stakeholders in a timely manner. A contact list or database should be elaborated as well as a pre-determine activation process for all stakeholders.

ACTION: Stakeholders agreed to provide NOSDRA with an updated list of emergency contacts (names, telephone, fax and emails). These should be operational contacts i.e. not a person but a number that is accessible on a 24-hour basis.

3) There is a need to clarify quantities for tier response and the procedure for transfer of command between NIMASA, NOSDRA and IOCs when an incident escalates from Tier 1 to Tier 2 to Tier 3.

The current NOSCP define and set specific quantities of oil spilled for Tier 1 (less than 7 tons), Tier 2 (between 7 and 700 tons) and Tier 3 (more than 700 tons). The organization responsible for the management of the spill is also set accordingly to the Tier level with the oil companies responsible for a Tier 1, NIMASA and/or CNA for a Tier 2 and NOSDRA for Tier 3. However, there is no clear process in the plan that indicates how that responsibility will be transferred from one organization to the other as an incident escalate from Tier 1 to Tier 2 or to Tier 3. This issue was very apparent during the exercise. There is also the need to validate the quantities used to define the Tier levels. A clear mechanism for the transfer of command needs to be elaborated and included in the NOSCP.

ACTION: A working group composed of representatives from NOSDRA, NIMASA and IOCs will be formed to resolve this issue.

4) The NOSCP should be modified to include Incident Command System (ICS)/Incident Management System (IMS) as the command structure.

The command structure for Tier 3 currently in the NOSCP is the following:

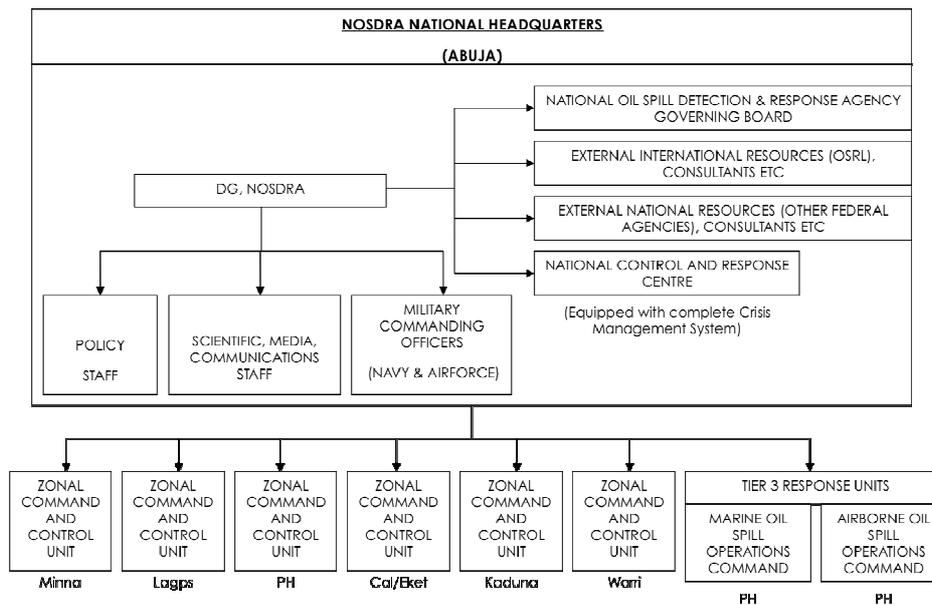


Figure 3: Command structure in the current NOSCP

This structure is mainly organization based and does not reflect the various emergency functions such as planning, operation, logistic and finance that needs to be implemented for an efficient oil spill response. During the exercise, it was very clear that the integration of all relevant stakeholders within this structure was difficult which lead to coordination and communication problems in the response. In order to avoid these issues and to clarify the chain of command, NOSDRA should consider using a more internationally recognized structure such as the Incident Command System (ICS/IMS).

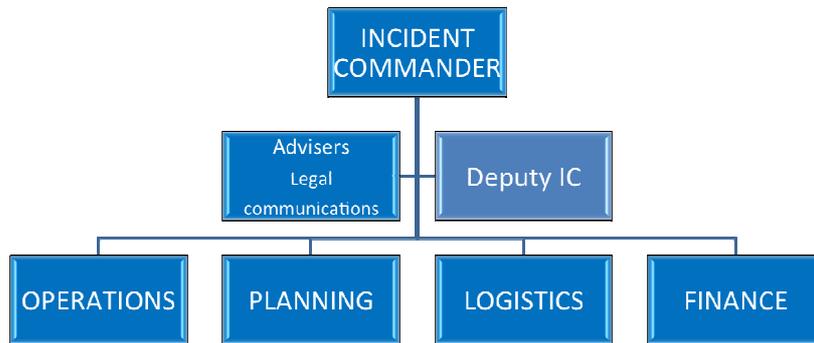


Figure 4: Typical command structure under ICS

This type of structure, which is recognized by IPIECA and IMO, provide flexibility and could be adapted specifically for the Nigerian context. It would also ensure a seamless transition between the oil industry and NOSDRA as this structure is widely used by the oil industry worldwide. It also eliminates organizational barriers, as multiple stakeholders are integrated and responsible for delivering specific products within the structure.

As an example, the planning section is responsible for:

- Keeping information up to date
- Weather forecasts
- Information on product spilled and its trajectory
- Assessment of environmental impacts
- Identification of proper response strategies
- Waste management

And the following Nigerian organizations could be part of the planning section and work together on these issues:

- NOSDRA
- Ministry of Environment
- Hydrological Institute
- Weather Office
- Etc.

This integration would bring significant benefits in terms of improved communications and coordination and would also provide a reasonable span of control for the Incident Manager as well as a clear line of command during the response.

ACTION: A committee made up of relevant stakeholders will be formed to evaluate how this type of command structure could be implemented in Nigeria.

Summary of the closing ceremony

In his closing remark, Sir Peter Idabor, Director General, NOSDRA, thanked the participants for their participation and involvement during this workshop. He mentioned that NOSDRA welcomed the recommendations from this workshop and that they would follow up on these very important items. Following his remark, certificates were distributed to the participants.

Conclusion

This exercise benefited from the participation of delegates from various Governmental departments and from the local oil industry. This representation from both the public and private sectors enabled the participants to have very productive discussions and to better understand the preoccupations of each other. The exercise was a great opportunity to test the NOSCP and identify relevant improvements to make sure Nigeria respond efficiently to marine oil spills and therefore minimize potential impacts on local population the environment and the economy.

Evaluation forms were distributed at the end of the workshop to the participants for completion. They were asked to rate a series of statements in relation to their experience on the course and the associated logistical arrangements; Figure 5 below shows an analysis of this feedback. Feedback was very positive for the event, with the exception of the venue for the exercise. For most participants, the training was useful and they were satisfied with their experience.

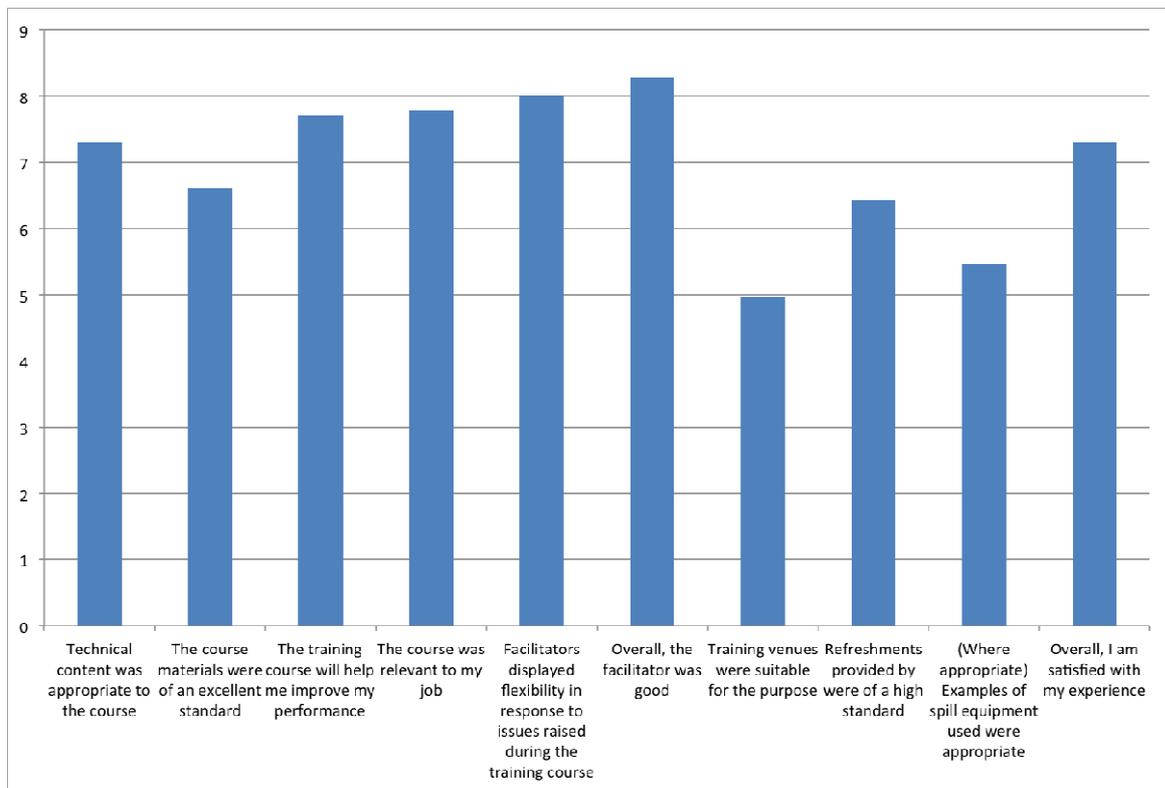


Figure 5: Results of the evaluation form (See form annex 5)

Annex 1: Programme

Day 1: 27 July 2011	
Opening Ceremony	
09h30	Registration of participants
10h00	Opening speech IMO/IPIECA Opening speech NOSDRA
11h00	Coffee break
Introduction	
11h30	Introduction of workshop objectives and presentation of the GI WACAF Project Mr Romain Chancerel, GI WACAF Coordinator, IMO/IPIECA
12h00	Presentation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan and of the National Incident Command system NOSDRA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authorities in charge - The National Incident Command system - The Tier response organization
13h00	Lunch Break
14h00	Oil Industry oil spill response OPTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mutual aid - Coordination
14h30	Overview of oil spill response strategies Mr Stéphane Grenon, Consultant IMO/IPIECA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on strategies for oil spill response
15h00	Coffee break
Exercise Briefing	
15h30	Exercise objectives, logistic and rules Mr Stéphane Grenon, Consultant IMO/IPIECA
16h30	End of day 1

Day 2: 28 July 2011

Exercise

09h30 Exercise – Response to an oil spill in Nigeria

16h00 End of day 2



Day 3: 29 July 2011

Exercise Debriefing and Recommendations

09h30 Exercise debriefing
Participants will work in syndicate groups to identify improvements for Nigeria National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

11h00 Coffee Break

11h30 Presentation of out comes from each group
Speaker from each group to present results of deliberations

13h00 Lunch Break

14h00 Adoption of general recommendations

15h00 Coffee Break

Closing ceremony

15h30 Closing ceremony

- Recommendation of the workshop
- Closing speech.

Annex 2: List of participants

Activation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP)

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Date: July 27, 2011

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Annex 3: Opening speeches

Opening Remarks from IMO by Mr. William Azhu, Head of Africa (Anglophone) Section, Technical Cooperation Division, IMO, London

Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen, good morning

It is a great pleasure for me to be with you today on the occasion of the testing of Nigeria's national oil spill contingency plan (NOSCP), a very critical requirement in oil pollution response capability as enshrined in Annex I of the MARPOL Convention. I bring you warm greetings from H.E. Admiral Efthimios Mitropoulos, IMO Secretary General, who is unavoidably not with us today because of earlier scheduled equally important commitments. He has therefore asked me to let you know that he is with you in spirit as you embark on this important exercise to test your country's capability and preparedness to deal with disasters relating to oil spills from ships and oil platforms.

Shipping is crucial to the global economy and shipping alone is responsible for over 90 percent of world trade in volume, and takes place in a particularly precious and vulnerable environment. Today, marine ecosystems and biodiversity are endangered; marine species are reducing in numbers; the world's fish stocks are under constant threats; and coral reefs are in catastrophic decline as a result of human-generated pollution. And not only are the seas and oceans of the world worthy of protection for their own sake, they are also key components in the sustainability and preservation of the entire planet.

Within the context of "Green shipping", the focus today is very much on atmospheric pollution and on the emission of Greenhouse gases (GHG) that are altering the earth's climate at an alarming rate based on scientific evidence. But this was not always the case. Oil pollution from ships was, for the major part of the second half of the last century, a cause for serious concern and IMO, as the industry's regulatory authority, moved promptly to establish a comprehensive set of measures, which aims first, to control emissions then, subsequently and gradually, reduce it substantially.

When the Convention establishing IMO was adopted in 1948, marine pollution was regarded as little more than a local problem. When IMO became operational, in 1959, the big boom in international oil trade was fast approaching. Within less than two decades, the world tanker fleet had increased tenfold in tonnage and tankers themselves had grown in size by the same amount. One result of all this was an alarming increase in pollution of

the seas, especially oil pollution, which was caused not only by tanker accidents but also as a consequence of routine shipping operations, such as the cleaning of cargo tanks.

IMO wasted no time as it embarked on a multi-faceted, ambitious programme of work, which gradually culminated successfully in the adoption, in 1973, of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, now known universally as MARPOL. MARPOL tackles oil pollution on several fronts. It greatly limits the amount of oil that may be discharged into the sea during routine operations and bans it completely in some areas. It requires Governments to build national capacities and structures including providing reception facilities for oily wastes (from all ships, not just tankers) and IMO has developed guidelines on how these facilities should be provided and held seminars and workshops around the world giving further technical guidance on installing them. And I am happy to let you know that just yesterday, I attended a national Steering Committee meeting which preparing to host an IMO MARPOL Convention regional conference, which we will be organizing in Lagos in October this year.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One critical component of national capacity for oil spill control and prevention is a demonstrated ability to respond to oil spills, and this begins with national oil spill contingency plan, which is the purpose of our gathering here today. Indeed, one of the challenges of many plans is how to ensure that they are constantly tested, reviewed and updated where necessary in order that they are not outdated. While congratulating Nigeria for developing the NOSCP, we strongly urge you to focus extra time and resources on building the capacity to implement this plan, which is the most important aspect of planning.

As most of you may already be aware, within the framework of measures to support developing countries to build capacity for oil spill preparedness and response, IMO in partnership with the oil industry operators launched the Global Initiative for West and Central Africa (GI WACAF), a partnership between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. A key innovative feature of this initiative is emphasis on the promotion of public/private partnership for effective oil spill response making use of existing industry expertise and resources.

The GI-WACAF launched a four years program jointly funded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and eight Oil Companies members (BP, Chevron, ENI, ExxonMobil, Marathon, PERENCO, Shell and Total) through the International Petroleum Environment Conservation Association (IPIECA). This project is aimed at strengthening the national oil spill response capability in 21 countries of West and Central Africa through the establishment of local partnership between the oil industries and the national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness and response

at national level. The capacity building under the project is developed through workshops, training, seminars and deployment exercises with national authorities in charge of oil spill response, in partnership with local business units.

Based on an effective management system, the GI WACAF established the following six goals of preparedness and key performance indicators to enhance the capacity of countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. These goals cover the requirements of the OPRC 90 convention:

- › Goal 1: Legislation: to Promote the ratification of the relevant international Convention
- › Goal 2: Contingency plan: to Have contingency plan for all the countries of the region
- › Goal 3: Designation of authority: to Get clarity in roles and responsibilities for oil spill response
- › Goal 4: Regional agreement: to promote exchange and mutual assistance for oil spill response
- › Goal 5: Training: to Ensure that training and exercises are developed in each of the countries on a regular basis
- › Goal 6: National capabilities: to support countries in developing their own national response system

Our meeting today is testimony of Nigeria's compliance with Goal 2 (Contingency Plan) which has not only been developed, but is also going to be tested during the next three days. Indeed, IMO is very proud to note that, thanks to the GI-WACAF to which IMO is proudly associated, considerable capacity has been built and continues to be built both at the national and regional levels within this sub region, and as a result, many of the countries have achieved milestones under all the six goals. For example, as of June this year, the sub-region's achievement under all the goals included 96% on Goal 5 (Training and exercises), 75% on Goal 3 (designation of authority), 80% on Goal 4 (develop regional agreement), 58% each on Goals 1 and 2 (develop Legislation and NOSCP), and 35% on Goal 6 (develop national capabilities).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

IMO wishes to commend the WACAF region for these achievements while encouraging countries not to rest their oars. It is also important to emphasize the regional effort because the sea has no physical boundaries to block oil pollution in the waters of one country from spilling over to neighboring countries. It is therefore important for relatively better-endowed countries like Nigeria to also pay attention to the resource constraints of their regional neighbours and try to find ways to support them within the spirit of South-South cooperation.

While commending Nigeria once more for coming this far from not only developing the NOSCP but also making conscious effort to test the plan, I wish to assure you that, in line with IMO's mandate, the Organization will continue to support developing countries to meet their requisite maritime capacity needs. It is our expectation that the lessons you will learn from the testing of your NOSCP over the next three days will not only help you

improve on your existing plan but that you will also share your lessons with other member countries of the WACAF region so that together, we will all ensure that the sub region's waters are free from oil related pollution.

I wish you a successful testing exercise.

Thank you.

**OPENING REMARK BY THE DG/CEO, NATIONAL OIL SPILL DETECTION AND RESPONSE AGENCY
(NOSDRA), SIR PETER IDABOR**

The Honourable Minister of Environment, Mrs. Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia; the UNDP Country Representative, Dauda Toure; the Nigerian Representative, IMO, Mr. Williams Azuh; the Regional Co-ordinator, IMO, Mr. Michael Luguge; GI WACAF Co-ordinator, IMO/IPIECA, Mr. Romain Chancerel; the IMO/IPIECA Consultant, Mr. Stephane Grenon, all other invited guests, ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure for me to address this august gathering on this occasion of the activation of National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP). This is in line with global best practice in oil spill preparedness for effective management of oil spill, particularly Tier 3 level incidents. At the same time, it is in consonance with the Transformation Agenda of the present Administration. You will recall that towards the actualization of this event, the Agency had successfully hosted two preparatory meetings with stakeholders where issues on call up strategies were discussed and role players were sensitized.

2. Ladies and Gentlemen, let me commend the collaborative efforts of our partners in this project, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA). The objective of this exercise is to strengthen the oil spill response capability of Nigeria and indeed the 22 countries of Global Initiatives for West and Central Africa (GI-WACAF) project. You may wish to know that GI-WACAF is a partnership between IMO and IPIECA and the objective of the partnership is achieved through activities planned and agreed upon by member countries during periodical Regional Workshops and conferences held at different locations within the West and Central African region.

3. As a result of the Regional Workshop and Conference held in Yaoundé, Cameroon in November 2009, National plans were established by individual Countries to strengthen oil spill response capability for the coming biennium 2010-2011. These National plans are conceded as road maps of the projects for the next two years. Therefore, to support the implementation of this plan, IMO, IPIECA planned to conduct a number of technical Co-operational activities in the region targeted at 15 countries. For Nigeria, the following activities were proposed:

- i. National Workshop on Oil Spill Trajectory Modeling and National Dispersant Use Policy- November, 2010;
- ii. National Oil Spill Response Exercise to Test the NOSCP- July 2011.
- iii. International Workshop and Conference on Oil Spill Preparedness.

I am delighted to inform you that this year's Regional Conference on Oil Spill Preparedness under the auspices of GI-WACAF project is holding in Nigeria in October. NOSDRA and NIMASA are collaborating towards the successful hosting of the Conference, to this effect a steering committee meeting was held on Tuesday 26th July 2011 in Abuja.

4. It is pertinent to highlight that recently, precisely, on the 23rd of June 2011, in the course of its routine regulatory role, the Agency activated the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP) on tier -2 and 3 levels as a baseline operation to gauge the oil spill response preparedness of the company. The exercise enabled the Agency to access and weigh itself on its capability to discharge this specialized and sensitive mandate as well as accessing the awareness of other Government Agencies towards their roles and responsibilities within the concept of the NOSCP.

5. It is germane to mention that in demonstration of its commitment to ensuring adequate, timely and effective detection, control and response to oil spill incidents, the Agency has acquired a 19 pollcat oil spill Response Vessel which will arrive Nigeria from United Kingdom very soon. Also, Oil Spill Response equipment is being acquired through the support of Ecological Funds Office. The Agency's Laboratory and Warehouse complex in Port Harcourt is nearing completion in order to ensure proper stockpile of these oil spill response equipment for necessary deployment as well as integrity in sampling / laboratory procedures with regard to samples taken from oil

impacted sites. You are also aware that NOSDRA had completed the Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) mapping of the Nigeria coastline stretching 50km inland from Badagry to Calabar, which is available for sale to oil companies and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, Federal Government under the able leadership of Mr. President has approved the extension of coverage of the ESI Maps to 100km inland which will commence soon.

6. Ladies and Gentlemen, I assure you of the Agency's commitment and determination to see that this event, which is the first attempt in the history of this country to activate the national plan, is successful. The entire nation and the world at large are watching us to see how prepared we are towards responding to Tier -3 oil spill disaster and we cannot afford to fail. Let us work together to create a lasting impression in this national exercise. Remember, if we get it right today, we will always get it right and better again.

7. At this junction, I commend the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for their support towards the activation of the NOSCP; I hope that our partnership will continue unabated. I also commend the effort of all the Stakeholders for their contributions and co-operations in seeing that this day became a reality.

8 Finally, I wish to once again thank you for honouring our invitation and I hope you will find this exercise very interesting and worthwhile'

9 God bless you.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

It is with great pleasure and honour that I welcome you to this historic occasion of the Activation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP). This exercise is very strategic and critical in the Transformation Agenda of this Administration because it is the very first time Nigeria is taking a bold step to activate its National Plan after eight years of its development and approval by the Federal Executive Council. Today marks the realisation of major evidence and footprints of this Administration's commitment to sustainable development. I consider myself highly privileged to be a part of this history particularly recognising that this is one of the first

National assignment of great importance being hosted by my Ministry since assuming duty as the Hon. Minister of Environment.

2. Ladies and Gentlemen, you are aware that the NOSCP was conceived and developed by the Federal Government of Nigeria as a national plan that prescribes the necessary procedures and practises for prevention, control and response to Tier-3 level oil spill in Nigeria as well as ascertain the institutional capability of relevant stakeholders involved in response to oil spill disasters. Put simply, the NOSCP is the technical manual for the management of oil spill incidents in Nigeria. It was presented and approved by the Federal Executive Council in 2003.

3. It is noteworthy to mention here that today's event is very expedient and indispensable in the transformation agenda of this administration because the Activation of NOSCP is one of the activities agreed for implementation as Nigeria's Action Plan at the Regional Conference of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO)/International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) under the auspices of Global Initiative for West and Central African (GI-WACAF) Project held in Yaoundé, Cameroun in 2009, which NOSDRA participated in as the Lead Agency for Oil Spill Management in Nigeria.

4. Ladies and Gentlemen, suffice it to say that there is no better time to carry out this exercise than now considering the fact that most times disasters are neither predictable nor notify able. The recent BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was very alarming and devastating and that has placed a big burden globally on the need to build and strengthen capacities of relevant institutions to effectively combat oil spill incidents of such magnitude. We should not wait until we experience such disaster before we take the necessary action because it may be too late if we are not prepared now.

5. At this juncture, I want to acknowledge members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee that initiated the process of developing this document and to express appreciation. Their labours, commitment and patriotism, which will continue to be, remembered as lasting contribution to national development and sustainability. I want to assure you that this Administration shall not take your efforts for granted. May I also recognise acknowledge, support and cooperation of our International partners namely IMO and IPIECA for partnering with us in achieving this goal.

6. On this note, I therefore welcome all participants and stakeholders, especially our International Partners to this epoch-making event. I call on all stakeholders to collaborate and cooperate with NOSDRA to actualise this national duty. I want you to see this occasion as our collective mandate and resolve to make our individual and

collective contributions to this national endeavour. I look forward to a successful activation exercise with the cooperation of all stakeholders.

7. Finally, I wish to once again thank you once more for honouring our invitation and I hope you will find this exercise very worthwhile. I therefore declare this exercise open. It is my pleasure and honour to formally declare the forum for the Activation of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

8. I thank you for your attention and God bless.

Mrs. Hadiza Ibrahim Mailafia
Hon. Minister,
Federal Ministry of Environment
July 27, 2011

Annex 4: Assessment form

To measure the effectiveness of this training course we are interested in your feedback

Course Name:

Name:

Date:

Your role in a spill:

How would you rate the following? Where 0 = Strongly Disagree and 10 = Strongly Agree. To help us make the appropriate improvements in the future, please can you be as specific as possible.

Course Design	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>a. Technical content was appropriate to the course</i>											
<i>b. The course materials were of an excellent standard</i>											
<i>Any specific comments about the course design;</i>											
Job Applicability	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>a. The training course will help me improve my performance</i>											
<i>b. The course was relevant to my job</i>											
<i>Any specific comments about applicability of courses;</i>											
Facilitators Overall	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

a. Facilitators displayed flexibility in response to issues raised during the training course												
b. Overall, the facilitator was good												

Any specific comments about facilitators;

Facilities and Organisation	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
a. Training venues were suitable for the purpose											
b. Refreshments provided by were of a high standard											
c. (Where appropriate) Examples of spill equipment used were appropriate											

Any specific comments about facilities and equipment;

Overall Evaluation	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
a. Overall, I am satisfied with my experience											

Thinking about the course overall, were there any modules you found **particularly useful** for your role;

Thinking about the course overall, were there any modules you found that **would not be particularly useful** for your role;

General Comments and Suggestions;

Annex 5: Pictures

