



Report

International Workshop on Oil Spill Contingency Planning

Banjul, The Gambia

29 March to 3 April 2009

NOTE:

The views expressed in this Report are those of the consultant and are not attributable in any way to the United Nations or the International Maritime Organization

Executive Summary

The purpose of this Workshop was to facilitate the building of oil spill response prevention and preparedness capacity within The Gambia and was aimed at providing the participants with the background knowledge on oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation at both international and national levels. Taking into consideration that Gambia has a draft National Oil Spill Contingency Plan that was developed by a British consultant in 1998, but never officially adopted, and that Senegal has in place an implemented National Plan (the POLMAR Plan), an important element of the workshop was to provide up-to-date knowledge on the latest international developments with regard to national oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation.

Another important issue was that Gambia at present is considering initiation of offshore oil exploration to commence before the end of 2009.

On the organizational side it was noted that the responsibilities for all emergency planning in Gambia, including national oil spill contingency planning, less than a year ago were transferred from various governmental departments and agencies to a newly established National Disaster Management Agency under the Vice Presidents Office.

The Workshop discussed issues like international, national and local oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation, including contingency planning, response management and organization, response policy, oil spill behaviour, fate and effects, assessment of oil spills, media relations, claims and compensation and termination of a response operation. During one afternoon session, the Workshop participants visited the NAWEC electricity production site in Banjul and a new oil terminal, which is located outside Banjul and is to be operated by GAMPETROL.

The participants, representing government agencies, local authorities, the oil industry and local utility companies had the right background knowledge and experiences to receive maximum benefit of the issues under consideration. Some participants had taken part in the national oil spill contingency planning process that has taken place in Gambia and Senegal. A good understanding of the issues surrounding the preparation of a response to oil spills was demonstrated during the Workshop by many relevant questions asked and issues considered.

The Workshop was well received and participants expressed the view that the level was relevant and the outcome was satisfactory.

The main recommendation of the Workshop was for the Government of Gambia, as soon as possible, to accede to the following IMO Conventions: OPRC 1990, CLC 1992 and Fund 1992.

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1. Course Information

Course Title:	International Workshop on National Oil Spill Contingency Planning.
Host:	The National Disaster Management Agency, the Port and Shipping Administration and the Department of Environment of The Gambia.
Venue	Paradise Suits Hotel, Banjul, The Gambia.
Date	31 March – 03 April 2009
Type	International Workshop on National Oil Spill Contingency Planning. The presentations made by the external experts were based on the IMO Model Course, Level 3 for Managers and Senior Officials.
Organised by	The International Maritime Organization in co-operation with the Gambian Authorities
Participating countries	Gambia and Senegal
Supported by	The International Petroleum Industries Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) under the Global Initiative for West and Central. Africa (GI WACAF) and Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.
Number of participants	Approximately 40, including one from Senegal.
Number of trainers	2
Summary	<p>An International Workshop on National Oil Spill Contingency Planning with the participation of Government and local authorities, the oil industry and local utility companies was held from 31 March to 03 April 2009, at the Paradise Suites Hotel in Banjul, The Gambia. The National Disaster Management Agency, Port and Shipping Administration and Department of Environment of Gambia, in collaboration with the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and supported by the International Petroleum Industries Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) under the Global Initiative for West and Central. Africa (GI WACAF) and Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.</p> <p>The Workshop drew participants from the, Government Ministries, Departments and local authorities, the local oil industry and utility companies from The Gambia. The Presentations presented by the External Experts were based on the IMO OPRC Level 3 course.</p>

2. Introduction

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has, since 1996, in collaboration with the International Petroleum Industries Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) under the Global Initiative for West and Central Africa (GI WACAF), provided support for the development of a modern national and regional oil spill contingency plan for the West and Central African States. In parallel, IMO has also supported the development of a regional framework on co-operation in cases of major oil spills under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Seas Programme for West and Central Africa.

With regards to Gambia, the IMO had, in the mid-1990-ties, provided the framework for a national oil spill contingency plan. In August 1998, a UK consultanting company developed a draft National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia. However, this draft Plan was never adopted nor implemented.

The Gambia has not yet ratified the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC), 1990, and its HNS Protocol from 2000. Neither is Gambia party to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage by Ships, 1992 (CLC 1992) nor the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992 (FUND 1992).

The Gambia is Party to Annexes I - V of the International Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78) and

The Gambia is also party to the Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention 1981) and its Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution in Cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol (1981)). Gambia has actively participated in regional activities under the WACAF Convention.

In order to facilitate a wider understanding on matters related to oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation and the further development and finalization of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia, the IMO and IPIECA were invited to assist in organizing an International Workshop on National Oil Spill Contingency Planning to be held from 31 March to 03 April 2009 in Banjul, The Gambia..

The IMO Marine Environment Division in co-operation with the Technical Co-operation Division contracted Mr. John Østergaard of The Oil Spill Training Company Limited, to conduct the International Workshop. IMO also invited the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, under the IMO/Singapore, Memorandum of Understanding to assist in the implementation of the Workshop. The costs associated with Mr. John Østergaard's consultancy work was funded under the IMO Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme.

Captain James Maung, represented the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore at the International Workshop. The cost of his participation was provided for by Singapore.

The following is a report of the Workshop prepared by Mr John Østergaard.

3. Course Preparation and Implementation

The preparatory work for the organisation of the International Workshop was carried out by the Marine Environment Division, IMO in close co-operation with the National Disaster Management Agency, Port and Shipping Administration and Department of Environment of Gambia. These Administrations were also responsible for all practical and logistical arrangements in Banjul.

John Østergaard of the Oil Spill Training Company, and consultant to IMO, acted as course director. He was assisted by Captain James Maung, representing the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore and representatives of the Authorities of The Gambia.

The program of the International Workshop was developed upon arrival of the external experts in Gambia in close consultation with the Gambian organizers. Presentations provided by the external expertise were based on the IMO OPRC Level 3 Model Workshop. In general, the Workshop Programme followed the recommended procedures for an IMO Model course. No background information on the qualifications and oil spill response knowledge of the participants were provided prior to the course.

During the introduction to the Workshop, the participants were invited to talk about their oil response experiences. This showed that only a limited number of the participants had been involved in some kind of oil pollution preparedness work or response to actual oil spills, prior to attending this Workshop.

The International Workshop was conducted in a meeting room at the Paradise Suits Hotel. The meeting room was adequate for the Workshop. Unfortunately the audio visual system for the meeting room was not always working to the full satisfaction of the participants. Refreshments etc. were provided in an adjacent restaurant of the hotel. The seating of the meeting room was comfortable with adequate desk space. The facilities were satisfactory and the logistics and services provided by the Organizing Authorities and the Hotel were excellent and contributed greatly to the overall success of the Workshop.

The standard IMO Model training course workbook was provided in electronic format by IMO and distributed to all the participants at the end of the training course. The limited number of IMO publications including the OPRC 1990 Convention, the OPRC-HNS Protocol, 2000, and the IMO Manuals on Oil Pollution, Volume II and IV, provided by IMO and mailed to the Organizers prior to the Workshop were distributed to key-personnel by the Organizers.. The standard IMO Level 3 Model Course presentations, including slides and documentation, the IPIECA Report series and other useful information was also provided to the participants in electronic format at the end of the Workshop.

4. Participants

Approximately 40 participants from The Gambia and one person from Senegal attended the Workshop, which was conducted by two external lecturers. The trainees came from governmental and local authorities and from the oil industry and local utility companies. In general all participants could be involved in accidental marine or land pollution preparedness, response and co-operation. Unfortunately, the List of Participants was not provided to the lead consultant, prior to his departure from The Gambia, but later received by e-mail. The

List of Participants is attached as annex 1. Also a List of Participants, based on the returned IMO Questionnaires was developed by Mr. John Østergaard is attached under annex 1

5. Lecturers

The two external lecturers covered the topics as listed.

Captain James Maung, Representative of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore.

Topics:

- Effects and Impact of Oil Spills
- Behaviour and fate of an Oil spill
- Containment, Protection and Recovery of Oil, In Situ Burning, Bioremediation, Absorbents and Chemical treatment of oil spills.
- Why Singapore is at risk
- Course review and debriefing

Mr. John Østergaard, Consultant to the IMO and Director of the Oil Spill Training Company Ltd.

Topics:

- Course Introduction
- Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organization
- International co-operation and the legal framework
- Liability, Claims and Compensation
- Communications and Media relations
- Regional Co-operation within WACAF
- Course review and evaluation
- Closing ceremony

The current situation in Gambia and Senegal

Presentations on the current situation in The Gambia and Senegal were provided as follows:

Topics:

- **The Gambia draft NOSCP:** Representative of Department of Environment
- **NAWEC:** Representative of NAWEC (National Electricity and water utility company)
- **Contingency planning in Gambia:** Representative of Gambian Port Authority and PURA
- **GAMPETROL;** Oil Terminal Emergency Plan by representative of GAMPETROL
- **HASSMAR:** Emergency Contingency planning in Senegal, The representative of Senegal.
- **The POLMAR Plan;** Senegal National Oil Spill Contingency Plan, by a representative of Senegal.

6. Course Overview

Course Programme

The Workshop commenced on Tuesday, 31 March 2009 at 09:00 hrs. and terminated on Friday, 03 April 2009 at 12:30 hrs. In consultation with the Gambian hosts, the Workshop was designed and organized with one morning session from 09:00 hrs to 13:30 hrs and an afternoon session from 14:30 hrs to 16:30 hrs; 30 minute coffee/tea breaks were provided at 11:00 hrs.

A copy of the programme is attached as Annex 2.

Opening of the National Workshop

Opening of the International Workshop on National oil Spill Contingency Planning followed the Special Programme attached as Annex 4. Mr. Essa Khan, National Disaster Management Agency acted as Chairman during the Special Opening session.

The official Welcome Address was presented by the Hon. Secretary of State, Department of the States for Local Governments and Land. The Hon. Secretary of State's welcome address is attached as annex 4.

The official Opening Statement and opening of the Workshop was presented by Her Excellency, The Vice President of the Republic of The Gambia and Chairperson Disaster Management Governing Council. Her Excellency, The Vice President's opening address is attached as annex 5.

The official opening ceremony ended with a vote of thanks by the Director General of the Gambian Port Authority.

7. Course Lectures and Sessions

Introduction

The Introductory session provided information on the administrative, practical and logistical arrangements for the course, as well as setting out the general objectives. It also provided a general introduction of the lecturers as well as the participants. It was emphasized that only by good co-operation and active participation by the delegates would it be possible to meet the objectives of the course. The draft programme for the course was also discussed.

Behaviour and Fate of an Oil Spill

This session provided information on the physical properties of various types of oil and how they evaporate, move on the seas surface, emulsify and disperse when they are released into the marine environment, and what effects all these factors will have on the response effort. It was important for the participants to have a good understanding of the natural weathering processes and how the physical and chemical properties of oil change after a spill has occurred. Although the individual processes that bring about these changes occur at the same time, their relative importance during the lifetime of an oil slick changes and this was emphasised to the participants.

The session also provided information on methods used for estimating key property changes and factors in determining oil type and weathered state, including factors in determining the likely trajectory of the spilled oil as well as the probability of the oil impacting the shoreline.

The current situation in Gambia and Senegal

A number of presentations were given during this session as follows:

National oil spill contingency planning in Gambia

The representative of the National Environment Agency presented the draft National Oil Spill Contingency plan from 1998. The Draft Plan is attached as annex 6.

Gambia Port Authority –PURA

A representative of Gambia Port Authority provided an overview of national considerations related to oil spill contingency planning in The Gambia. A second presentation provided information on the current state of oil spill contingency planning in Gambia and listed a number of areas where urgent action is required.

National Utility Company

The representative of NAWEC provided a presentation on the objectives, organisation and work of his company including the environmental problems the company has been faced with.

GAMPETROLEUM

The representative of GAMPETROLEUM presented the Oil Spill Response Plan for GAMPETROLEUM oil storage facilities in The Gambia.

HASSMAR

The representative of Senegal provided information on general emergency planning, including national oil spill contingency planning in Senegal. In a second presentation, the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan of Senegal – The POLMAR PLAN – was explained in detail.

Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organization

This session described the purpose and main types of national contingency plans, including the key components and main topics to be considered in the development of the Plan. The initial response actions and suggestion for a basic response organization and how this organization might be expanded in case of a major incident were described. The session also considered the characteristics of managing the incident during the initial or critical phase and described the factors that would be involved in commanding and controlling a response to an oil spill. The session then went on to look at issues to be considered when establishing a command centre and the main elements of logistic support. Matters to be considered in

connection with response planning were also described as well as the factors relating to the provision for the needs of the response teams.

The session then went on to describe the purpose and legal basis of regional co-operation and gave examples of such co-operation in different parts of the world. Examples of co-operation and Regional Contingency Plans were also given.

Behaviour and Fate of an Oil Spill

This session provided information on the physical properties of various types of oil and how they evaporate, move on the sea surface, emulsify and disperse when they are released into the marine environment, and what effects all these factors will have on the response effort. It was important for the participants to have a good understanding of the natural weathering processes and how the physical and chemical properties of oil change after a spill has occurred. Although the individual processes that bring about these changes occur at the same time, their relative importance during the lifetime of an oil slick changes and this was emphasised to the participants.

The session also provided information on methods used for estimating key property changes and factors in determining oil type and weathered state, including factors in determining the likely trajectory of the spilled oil as well as the probability of the oil impacting the shoreline.

Containment, Protection and Recovery of Oil – In-situ burning, bioremediation, dispersants, absorbents and chemical treatment of oil

The main topic during this session described the process of containing oil, either to prevent it from spreading to a particular area or to divert it to an area where it can be recovered. The principle types of containment boom and protection boom that would be required to achieve this were discussed as were their strengths and limitations. Recovery is the next step after containment and is often a major step in removing oil from the environment. Thus the different types of oil recovery equipment available including skimmers, vacuums, mechanical grabs and sorbents were discussed as well as a detailed analysis of the factors surrounding their choice. A discussion then followed on the use of both booms and skimmers in open seas as well as in coastal areas.

The session also considered the use of in-situ burning, bioremediation, and absorbents; their benefits and limitations. Factors to be considered when monitoring the effectiveness of a recovery operation were also described.

The session then went on to describe in detail, the basic principles of how dispersants work (chemical treatment of oil), the types of dispersant available and the various application methods used to apply the dispersants. Participants were also reminded of the need to obtain approval for dispersant use from the appropriate authorities before they can be applied and that many countries will only permit the use of dispersants that have passed toxicity tests relevant to the area in which they are to be used.

The participants were then introduced to the benefits of dispersing oil by the use of chemical dispersants as a means to remove oil from the sea surface by dispersing it into the sea, as opposed to the disadvantages of leaving untreated oil in the environment. The likely

environmental impacts of dispersant usage were also described and highlighted, using examples of dispersant applications at previous incidents around the world.

Communications and Media Relations

This session provided information on the needs of the media (newspapers, radio and television) and factors involved in successfully handling the media. The media is becoming increasingly sophisticated and therefore information can be spread worldwide rapidly. This can have a significant impact on the reputation of the organisations involved in an oil spill. It is imperative to ensure that all media enquiries are handled efficiently. The importance of the media as a public information tool was also discussed. Guidelines for a successful media interview and recommendations on how to conduct a one-on-one interview were provided.

Liability, Claims and Compensation

This session provided the background for the international liability and compensation regimes for oil spills from tankers: the Civil Liability, the Fund Conventions and the Supplementary Fund (CLC 92, FUND 92 and Fund Protocols of 2000 and 2003). It presented a broad spectrum of the damages that can be compensated through this regime and described the role of the Protection and Indemnity (P & I) Clubs and the IOPC Fund. Examples were included explaining the factors affecting the admissibility of clean-up claims based on past spill case studies. Finally an introduction on the claim handling procedure was given with some recommendations on how to submit a claim.

International co-operation and the legal framework

This session provided detailed information on the background, aim, objectives and content of OPRC 1990. It emphasised the obligations of a Party including the obligation to develop national and local contingency plans. Further the sessions focused on the obligation to report and assess any oil spill. The importance and the benefits of being a Party to the convention were highlighted. It was strongly recommended that The Gambia access OPRC 1990, as soon as possible. The session continued with an explanation of the global tiered response system including regional agreements and conventions on mutual co-operation and assistance. It explained the basic framework for the regional arrangements under the UNEP Regional Seas Programme and provided examples on intergovernmental response centres, intergovernmental equipment stock piles and international response centres operated by the oil industry. An overview on the role and work of International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) was provided. The main content of IMO Assembly resolution A.983 (24) was explained together with a short presentation of the following IMO Conventions: MARPOL 73/78, the Intervention Convention and its Protocol, the HNS Convention and the Bunker Convention.

Regional co-operation under the Abidjan Convention (WACAF)

The session provided detailed information on the UNEP Regional Seas Programme with focus on the objectives and obligation of a Party to the Abidjan Convention and its Emergency Protocol taking into consideration that The Gambia is a Party to the Abidjan Convention. Further, the amendments to the Convention, at present under consideration, were explained.

Why Singapore is at Risk

Captain James Maung provided a brief presentation on the traffic volume and navigational risks to shipping navigating the narrow waters of Singapore and the Malacca Strait as the reason for the development of a substantial oil spill contingency in the area. To illustrate the situation he presented a number of case studies on some of the more significant accidents at sea that has taken place in the area over the past few years and which have caused substantial oil pollution.

8. Closing Ceremony

Mr Essa Khan, National Disaster Management Agency acted as chairman during the closing ceremony, which had been moved forward to 10:30 as Friday, 3 April 2009 by was declared a National Holiday.

After prayers and a short introduction, he invited the IMO Consultant to provide a short statement on the outcome of the International Workshop. The statement by the IMO Consultant is attached as Annex 7

Mr Essa Khan then invited the Director General of Gambia Port Authority to present the Workshop Certificates to all participants. The Certificates were signed by Her Excellency, the Vice President of The Gambia and the Director of the Marine Environment Division of IMO. A copy of the Workshop Certificate is attached as annex 8.

Mr Essa Khan then invited the Director-General to give a closing statement and officially close the Workshop.

The Director-General thanked the national organizing agencies and the external experts for a job well done. He thanked IMO and IPIECA for their support and for organizing the Workshop. He emphasised that the Workshop Certificates were signed by Her Excellency the Vice president of The Gambia, which was a clear signal to all, that national oil spill contingency planning had attention at the highest political levels in The Gambia.. He then congratulated the participants and presented them with their Certificate. He stated that 'knowledge is power' but also he underlined the fact that if the participants could not measure the knowledge they had received, they could not manage the knowledge. He stated that before the end of the year, oil exploration will be initiated off the coast of The Gambia, and that was why the Workshop was so timely. He underlined the importance of national and international co-operation and appreciated the participation of a senior official from Senegal as The Gambia and Senegal would need to work together in the case of a serious oil spill. He stressed that oil spills can occur and that is why it is important to be well prepared. In closing, he again thanked all the participants and the external experts and wished all a safe journey home. He then declared the International Workshop officially closed.

Course Review and Evaluation

Following the official closing, a short session covering Workshop Review and final questions was held. At the start of each day, the lecturers began with a short review of the previous day's lectures together with a presentation of the programme for that day. The participants were invited to ask any questions relating to the programme or any issues arising from the previous day. The result of these daily reviews ensured that the final Course review was very

brief with no questions being asked by the participants. At the end, the participants were invited to return the IMO Evaluation Questionnaire.

It was encouraging that the participants were pleased with the course and accordingly, no negative comments were received

The IMO Evaluation Questionnaire

The IMO Evaluation Questionnaire was handed out to the participants on Thursday at noon.

Based on the returned Evaluation Questionnaire, the following general comments can be made:

- 30 Participants out of 35 returned the Questionnaire Part I or Part II or both Part I and II
- Part I of the Questionnaire should be compared with the Organisers List of Participants (see annex 1) for detailed personal information.
- The length of the Workshop was in general considered “just right”.
- The organisation of the Workshop, the facilities, the equipment used and the venue for the Workshop were considered satisfactory to excellent.
- The content of the presentations, the clarity, the technicality and comprehensiveness were considered satisfactory to excellent.
- The use of Audio Visual equipment, IMO references, bibliographies, text books and group activities were considered “just right” to “more use of”.
- The presentations and performance of the two lecturers were considered satisfactory to excellent. In general, the performances of the two lecturers were considered to be excellent.
- All lessons were considered of interest. A few would be interested in more information on: the use of response equipment and strategies, Laws and Conventions, and more use of videos and exercises. As many of the participants had no previous experiences in oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation the interest in the various subjects touched upon during the Workshop varied from participant to participant subject to their daily work and areas of responsibilities. In general, most participants were satisfied with the content of the course.
- A few suggested including topics like response to land-based spills, Waste management and claims and compensation. A few wished to include more “hands-on-training” in the course.
- The information provided prior to the Workshop was considered useful, although it was not quite clear if any information had been distributed prior to the Workshop.
- There was general agreement that all expectations to the Workshop were fulfilled.
- There was general agreement that the Workshop met its objectives.
- It was suggested to include in future courses such topics as: Regional Co-operation, more information on national oil spill contingency planning, prevention of oil spills, safety aspects, live spill exercises and practical on-hand equipment training.
- A substantial majority wanted to see more IMO assistance.

11. Conclusions

The training course has helped the participants from a wide range of authorities and private entities within The Gambia to obtain a better understanding of the different issues that have to be considered in connection with oil spill preparedness, response and cooperation.

The facilities and the support provided by the Gambian organizers were excellent and the facilities are recommended as the venue for any future regional or national training activities organized in co-operation between The Gambia and IMO.

The Workshop was conducted by two lecturers; this gave a broad range of experience available to the participants.

The Workshop was conducted in the English language, also the official language of The Gambia. The extensive use of illustrations, videos and animations were very much appreciated.

This Workshop confirmed again that, video clips, quality animation, and high quality slides illustrating an issue relevant to the subject under discussion increased the participants' alertness and facilitated a broader understanding of particular circumstances related to the various phases of an oil spill response operation or the issue under discussion or presented. Unfortunately, some of the audio visual equipment provided, did not perform to the full satisfactory of the participants.

The IMO documentation provided for the Workshop was well received, but several participants were less satisfactory with the numbers of documentation as not all had a set. Unfortunately, the organizers had not been able to produce or prepare students manuals, and consequently the course was conducted without any written documentation.

There is an urgent need for The Gambia to ratify a number of IMO Conventions related to oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation. The most important of these Conventions is OPRC 1990 Convention, which will ensure that The Gambia can call upon international assistance in case of a major oil spill.

Other important conventions are the Civil Liability Convention, 1992 and the Fund Convention also from 1992. These two Conventions will ensure that The Gambia will be able to submit claims and ask for compensation for the expenditures related to the response and consequences of an oil spill from oil tankers.

The draft National Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia that was developed in 1998 and will provide a good foundation for further development of, and initiation of an operational and up-to-date National Plan for The Gambia.

The Workshop agreed to establish a National Oil Spill Planning Group that should be tasked with the further development and implementation of a the National Plan based on the draft Plan from 1998.

The Workshop further agreed that the bilateral co-operation with Senegal should be enhanced.

The Workshop further requested the Leading Consultant to recommend IMO to continue its support for the development and finalization of the National Plan for The Gambia.

12. Recommendations

It is recommended that The Gambia:

- As soon as possible, takes the necessary steps to ratify and implement the following IMO Conventions: OPRC 1990 and the OPRC-HNS Protocol of 2000, CLC 1992, Fund 1992 and its Protocol from 2002.
- Under the Chairmanship of The Gambian Disaster Management Committee, establish a National Oil Spill Planning Committee to be tasked with the further development and initiation of an operational and up-to-date National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia.
- Consider the development of legal requirements for State and private oil handling entities to develop local Oil Spill Emergency Plans harmonized with the new National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia.
- Initiate close co-operation with Senegal in order to develop a bilateral agreement on close co-operation and mutual assistance in case of a major oil spill.
- When appropriate during the planning process consider a formal invitation to IMO to provide additional assistance for the development of the National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia.

It is further recommended that IMO continue to support the further development, up-dating and implementation of the National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia.

Annex 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANT (Developed by the Organisers)

International Workshop on the Development and Update of the Oil Spill National Contingency Plan - 31st March - 3rd April 2009 at the Paradise Suites Hotel			
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS			
1	Abubacarr Dibba	19	Ebrima Jallow
2	Mariama Bobb	20	Alieu Nyang
3	Fatou S Faal	21	Madi S Njie
4	Saffie Chow	22	Lawrence Drammeh
5	Kawsu Jammeh	23	Manlaphi Camara
6	Maleh Saine	24	Alfred G Bedford
7	Malick Bah	25	Fatoumatta Ndure
8	William Demba	26	Buba Darboe
9	Alhagie Williams	27	Ndenneh Nying
10	Ismaila Sanyang	28	Assan Sallah
1	Hamba Manneh	29	Gibril Nying
12	Momodou Cham	30	Walter Llyod
13	Yahya Fadera	31	Buba carr Bah
14	Assan Sallah	32	Musa Jawla
15	Sang Ndow	33	Nfally Kolley
16	Demba Sowe	34	Katchi B.M.Daabo
17	Baba Saïdy	35	Amie Secka-Njie
18	Fatou Ceesay		

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS - Developed by J. Østergaard based on completed IMO Questionnaires

No.	NAME	POSITION HELD	WORK PLACE
1	BELFAT , Alfred G.		
2	BAH , Amadoy		
3	BAH , Malick	Programme Officer	Gambian Environment Agency
4	CAMARA , Manlaphi	Field Coordinator	Gambian Control Association
5	CEESAY , Fatou	Trainee Engineer	Gambia Ports Authority
6	CHAM , Momodu	Principal Fisheries Assistant	Gambian Fisheries Department
7	DAABO , Katchi		

8	DARBOE , Buba	Disaster Management Coordinator	National Disaster Management Agency
9	DEMBA , William	Navigator	Gambian Navy
10	DIALLO , Alb Amadou		
11	JALLOW , Ebrima	Senior Operation Manager	Elton Oil, Gambia, (Marketing)
12	JAMMEH , Kawsu	Environmental Education Officer	Gambian Department of Parks and Wildlife management
13	JAWLA , Musa	Principal Fisheries Assistant	Gambian Fisheries Department
14	KOLLEY , Nfally	Tug Master	Gambian Ports Authority
15	KUJABI , Lamin		
16	MANNEH , Hamlo	Secretay	Office of the Vice President
17	MANNEH , Lamin	Assistant Engineer	Department of Energy
18	NDOW , Sang Colley	Divisional Fire Officer	Gambia Fire and Rescue Services
19	NTURE , Fatoumatta		
20	NYING , Ndemeh	Environmental Inspector	Gambian Environmental Agency
21	NYING , Gibril	Fire Officer	Gambian Fire and Rescue Services
22	NYANG , Alieu S.	Research & Development Manager	Gambian Environment Agency
23	PANNEH , Modoy	Engineer	National Water and Electricity Company
24	SAIDY , Baba	Trainee Tug Master	Gambian Ports Authority
25	SAIDYKHAN , Bakary	Trainee Marine Engineer	Gambia Ports Authority
26	SANYANG , Ismaila B.	Senior Meteorological Assistant	Department of Water Resources
27	SECKA-NJIE , Amie	Safety Officer	Gambia Ports Authority
28	SOWE , Demba	Trainee Tug Master	Gambia Ports Authority
29	WILLIAMS , Alhagie	Fleet Chief Petty Officer	Gambian Navy
30	YAHYA , Fadera	Police Commissioner	Gambian Police Force

ANNEX 2

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THE REPORT

CLC 92	The 1992 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage
FUND 92	International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992
IMO	International Maritime Organization
ITOPF	International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation
MARPOL	International Convention on the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOSCP	National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
OPRC 1990	International Convention on Oil Spill Preparedness, Response and Co-operation, 1990
P & I Clubs	Protection and Indemnity Associations
WACAF	Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region, and its Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution in cases of Emergency.

ANNEX 3

**PROGRAMME FOR WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY
PLANNING**

**VENUE: PARADISE SUITES HOTEL
Banjul The Gambia
31st March – 3rd April 2009**

Time	Tuesday (31 st)	Wednesday (1 st)	Thursday (2 nd)	Friday (3 rd)
08.30-90.00	Arrival and registration	Arrival and registration	Arrival and registration	Arrival and registration
09.00 10.00	Official opening, (Special Programme)	The Contingency Planning Process (JO)	Oil Treatment (JM)	Why Singapore at Risk (JM)
10.00-11.0			Senegal POLMAR GAMPETROL Emergency Plan	Regional Cooperation within WACAF (JO)
				Official Closing Certificates
11am-11.30	Tea Break	Tea Break	Tea Break	Tea Break
11.30-12.30	Workshop Introduction (JO)	Behaviour of Spilled Oil (JM)	International co- operation and the legal framework (JO)	11:30 – 12:30 IMO Questionnaire Questions and answers. End of course
12.30-13.30	Effects of Spilled Oil (JM)	Oil Spilled Containment and recovery (JM)	Communication and Media Issues (JO)	12:30 LUNCH
13.30-14.30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
14.30-15.30	Current Situation in Gambia: Gambia draft NOSCP	Liability and compensation (JO)	Sites visits: NAWEC GAMPETROL Oil Terminal	14:00 PRAYER
15.30-16.30	NAWEC operation and emergency Plan GAMBIAPORT AUTHORITY Contingency planning HASSMAR, Senegal	Removal of Spilled Oil (JM)		

Annex 4

National Oil Spill Contingency Plan Workshop

**31 March – 03 April 2009
Paradise Suites Hotel, Banjul, Gambia**

Program for Official Opening

- 1. Chair and Prayer**
- 2. Statement by SOS FOR Local Government and Lands and Member of the Disaster Management Governing Council**
- 3. Opening Statement by the Vice President, SOS for Women's Affairs and Chair person, Disaster Management Governing Council**
- 4. Vote of Thanks by Executive Director, NEA**
- 5. Close**

Annex 5

Speech by the Hon. Secretary **Department of State for Local Government and Lands**

H.E The Vice President
Mr. Chairman
Director Generals
Managing Directors
Participants/Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you Mr. Chairman, I am particularly delighted that The Disaster Management Agency and the Office of The Vice President have requested me as Secretary of State for the Interior to address to this important seminar. It is very heartening to see the amount of participation today to update the national oil spill contingency plan for The Gambia.

Nothing is more important to us all that our own personal well being, safety and to live prosperously in this country. The threat of disasters, both manmade and natural disasters pose a serious threat to our economic development.

I can see that most of you here attending today's seminar represent public and private institutions, private companies as well as representatives of civil society. Your participation shows the increasing recognition of the importance of protecting the environment in The Gambia, especially the fact that we are privileged to have H.E the Vice President here with us today.

Under the direct intervention of our dynamic leader of H.E The President, and H.E The Vice President has been guiding the disaster management committee to response to disasters in the country over the last decade. Some of the disasters have been seasonal due to unexpected floods whilst in some cases drought had created temporary food shortages exposing some parts of the population to acute food insecurity.

The disaster management committee did not only restrict itself to simply responding to disasters through humanitarian aid but also actively engaged in prevention measures such as awareness campaigns.

Although we have been relatively fortunate in the Gambia we should be take a very aggressive role in ensuring that we are prepared and should be regularly addressed. Most of the industrial labour still requires a high input of manual labour from loading and offloading often material not considered harmful such as cement, flour etc without any respiratory protection. It is obvious that long term health problems will develop.

Although this seminar is restricted oil spill mitigation, the newly established disaster management Agency is will have to work to formulate similar contingency plans for all the possible threats we face such as even epidemics such as Avian Flu etc. Today disaster

management should not only be seen as a national issue but an important issue in international relations because globalization has opened up channels for trade and movement of good and people. Thus we all have to cooperate to both mitigate and response to disasters.

My Department of State is very active in the work of the national disaster management system. State agencies like the police and other security agencies have been helping to mobilize resources every time we are called upon.

Disaster mitigation is very critical since it is anticipatory in nature and involves us mitigating or reducing the level of possible impacts before the actual disasters occur. Thus a key factor to successful disaster preventive depends different institutions being at the same level to effective respond when the need arises in an organised fashion.

The timing of this seminar is excellent, given both the rapid growth in almost all sectors of the economy such as construction, electricity, telecoms. Thus occupational health standards play a key role in the development of a modern economy will have to be improved to achieve our development objective.

I have no doubt that you will learn a lot from the several presenters. I hope you all use this seminar to express yourselves openly because what we are here to address is a potentially real and imminent scenario.

I can think of no better message to take from today's event than ***'Prevention is better than Cure'***

Our appreciation goes to those who have worked so hard to make this conference a reality both nationally and internationally and a special thanks goes to IPIECA for proving two experts.

Finally, I would like to thank you again and commend you all for your attendance at this event. I am sure you will find it a worthwhile experience.

Annex 6

**OPENING STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA AND CHAIRPERSON DISASTER MANAGEMENT
GOVERNING COUNCIL ON LAUNCHING OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND
UPDATING OF THE OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE GAMBIA
31ST MARCH – 3RD APRIL 2009
PARADISE SUITES HOTEL**

Honourable Secretaries of State
The Managing Directors / Executive Directors
Permanent Secretaries
Members of the National Disaster Management Advisory Group
The Representatives of the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
Representatives from the Republic of Senegal
Members of the Media
Distinguished Participants
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great pleasure and honour for me to be here on the occasion of the launching of this 4-day workshop to develop and update an oil spill contingency plan for The Gambia.

I am deeply honoured to be with you on this occasion and would like to express my sincere thanks to the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) and the National Disaster Management Agency under the portfolio of the Office of the Vice President for organising this workshop. I am also fully aware that an organising committee was set up to coordinate the organisation of this important event of national, sub-regional and international concern to the development aspirations of countries especially in meeting the targets set in the Millennium Declaration. Members of the coordinating committee were drawn from institutions that have a critical role to play on matters of Oil Spill and Oil Spill Contingency Planning. These institutions include, the Gambia Ports Authority, The Gambia Navy, PURA, The National Environment Agency under the coordinated authority of the Office of the Vice President as the coordinating arm of Government on matters of Disaster Management and prevention. Our work in such matters has been facilitated by the Disaster Management Secretariat which has now to transform to the National Disaster Management Agency. This is a clear indication of Government's Commitment on cross cutting issues that have a direct bearing on our national development endeavours.

The fact that a coordinating committee of multi-sectoral stake holders had to be formed clearly signals the multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary nature of Oil Spill and Oil Spill Contingency Planning. There is ample indication and supported by empirical evidence that interventions in various fields of human endeavour have not yielded the required dividends in terms of poverty reduction and the achievement of macro economic stability and growth due

to lack of high level coordination of such interventions to enhance synergy and complementarity and also to avert unnecessary duplication of efforts and resources. This has resulted to the issue of coordination being high on the political and economic agenda of multi-lateral and bi-lateral institutions and aid agencies. It is rightly for this reason that Government established the national aids coordination office in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

In the arena of Disaster Management, the negative lessons learnt from hurricane Katrina and the Indian Ocean tsunami are a clear demonstration of lack of effective coordination of interventions within an established national structure. This has resulted in the United Nations and in particular the UNDP becoming increasingly interested in an integrated and coordinated disaster management approach to deal with the negative lessons of intervention highlighted above.

On this note I thank the coordinating committee for a job well done and by extension to all stakeholders in this direction, particularly the petroleum industries.

As some of you may be aware The Gambia relies totally on oil (petroleum products) to fuel its economy. Oil based products are the sole source of primary energy to produce electricity and all the transport sector as well is driven by oil. In addition, The Gambia is a country that has relied on tourism as a critical source of income, thus it is in our long term national interest to preserve our beautiful sandy beaches and mangroves, our fisheries resources and the environment in general against the threat of oil spills.

All this fuel has to be imported and the only route is through shipping. As such any responsible government would have to put in place contingency plans to mitigate the risk associated with the transportation of such potentially hazardous material not only for economic reasons but also because of the need to protect the marine ecosystem.

Ladies and Gentlemen:
Distinguished Participants

My Office has over the years being in charge of disaster management in The Gambia through the Disaster Management Committee which has now been transformed in to a high level Advisory Group under the Chair of the Permanent Secretary Office of the Vice President. The Group comprise several stakeholders from the security forces, government agencies and the NGO community. Under the leadership of H.E The President, we have worked to bring disaster management to the fore of government's agenda and I am pleased to announce that the National Disaster Management Agency, a statutory body has just been established by an Act of the National Assembly as I have indicated earlier on.

This four day workshop is inline with long standing practice of this government to fully engage relevant institutions, civil society, businesses in the decision making process. This allows diverse opinions to be taken on board but also to allow for smooth execution and effectiveness of operations when it comes to implementation.

This workshop would not have also been possible without the advice and support of IPIECA and the IMO. Such vital support from the international community shows the concern they

have for The Gambia and I would like to formally request their representatives here present to express our sincere gratitude to their respective institutions when they return.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The development of an Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia cannot come at a more opportune time. It comes when the National Disaster Management Agency has just been established as the apex body to coordinate disaster management. Furthermore, the demand for oil is increasing rapidly due to strong investment in the energy and transport sectors and the current expansion of the port facilities in Banjul.

It is also at a time when countries in the sub region are also formulating their own plans. The Gambia and Senegal share a long history but we are condemned by the nature of our political boundaries to be together. An oil spill in any one country if not controlled will definitely affect the other with huge economic consequences. Thus we have invited our counterparts from Senegal to not only share their experiences but also inform us about their own plans and learn about ours as well. This will only enhance our response capabilities in the event of such accidents. You are warmly welcomed to the smiling coast of Africa. You are indeed at home.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

I urge you to participate fully in this workshop during the next four days to develop an Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia. Please participate fully and ask questions and try to find solutions that will make us prepared in terms of resources, communications and the early warning systems that need to be put in place. Once you have developed this Oil Spill Contingency Plan, government would ensure that it is a national document with a national and sub-regional character and we would, through the relevant agencies particularly the Disaster Management Agency, NEA , GPA and all critical stakeholders take full ownership and ensure its full implementation.

I am also encouraged that once such a plan is developed, together with the newly established Disaster Management Agency it will be periodically tested to ensure that we , as a nation, are fully prepared to implement it should the need arise.

I wish to reassure you of the Gambia government's full commitment to disaster management and prevention and that the outcome of this workshop would receive the highest support. We will also fully implement the outcome of this exercise and any recommendations you suggest as well together with you the owners and our development partners in a coordinated and well structured manner in the effective implementation of the Plan should the need arise. It is better to plan before an event than to plan after an event. Prevention Pays. 'The nicest thing about not planning is that failure comes as a complete surprise, and is not preceded by a period of worry and depression' John Perton, Boston College.

No where is planning important than in countries such as ours. The Gambia is vulnerable to climatic variations due to the physical architecture of the country coupled with a high population density. These pressures need to be released through better planning and coordination. An oil Spill will add to such pressures. An effective and well simulated Oil Spill Contingency Plan will serve to release the growing pressures of vulnerability in the country. The Gambia is among the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) critical list of the 100 countries most vulnerable to climate change effects globally. The

Department for International Development (DFID) Policy Paper has ranked the Gambia 24th among the developing countries at high risk of disasters. The importance of planning cannot be underestimated within the Gambian context. The establishment of the National Planning Commission is a case in point.

This workshop is therefore relevant and timely when the Gambia has established a comprehensive disaster management framework. Therefore be rest assured that it is no longer business as usual as PURA would confirm. The Plan would not lie in the cupboards dormant or in our laptops but will be a living document that will not be allowed to be redundant or derelict but rather to be used effectively as an instrument of prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response and ease of recovery.

I thank you all for coming to grace this important event and to wish all participants, facilitators and experts a successful workshop. We look forward to receiving the Plan for endorsement and to be subsequently followed with testing and eventual review where necessary and appropriate. I would also seize this opportunity to call on our development partners and other aid agencies to support government in the implementation of this plan and indeed of all other instruments of preparedness such as the Disaster management policy and strategy of Government.

On this final note I therefore have the honour and privilege to officially launch the Workshop to develop an Oil Spill Contingency Plan for The Gambia and to wish you fruitful deliberations in the days ahead.

Thank You.

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
OF THE GAMBIA**

CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

**Emergency Response Plan for
COASTLINE OIL SPILL**

Issue 1 (DRAFT)

August 1998

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Distribution

APPROVAL AND Q.A.

Authorised by:	Position:	Signature:	Date:

AMENDMENTS

Amendment Number	How amended e.g. new addition, page changed etc.	Amended by	Date

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Background

The Gambia is a maritime state with coastal waters stretching approx. 32 nautical miles wide adjacent to the coastline from the borders of Senegal and a territorial water limit of 12 nautical miles expanded to 200 nautical miles by an Exclusive Economic Zone . This gives the country a sea area of 384 nautical miles and 6,400 NM of which the Navy has jurisdiction and is responsible for protecting from all environmental threats that affect the water quality including oil.

Scope

This plan to respond to coastline oil spills provides a framework which can be customised for a particular incident since a range of factors will affect the response to an oil spill. The quantity of oil spilt, the type of oil, the location of the spill, the prevailing weather and tides are amongst the factors which must be considered during the implementation of this plan.

In The Gambia the most likely scenario outside the port area is a ship washing its tanks, running aground or colliding close to the Gambia River mouth. Action to be taken in such an event is outlined in this plan. Incidents occurring within the Port of Banjul will be covered by a separate contingency plan [ref. 1]. Crude oil tankers do not pass within 20 km of the Gambian coastline.

The level of response will be dependant on a number of factors, the quantity of oil spilt, the type of oil and spill location and its proximity to available response resources.

Small spills:	A spill that can be dealt with immediately utilising local resources from the Port.
Medium sized spills:	A spill that requires national mobilisation.
Large spills:	Beyond the capability of local and national resources. A spill that requires international assistance.

For the purpose of planning it will be necessary define a key position within the Navy-led Task force that contains suitably trained person(s) that can make the decision on what spill response is required based on information gathered concerning the spill. The precise mechanism of decision making and further information is contained in **appendix 2**.

This plan does not cover incidents that may be covered by other contingency plans already in existence such as the Gambian Port Authority Plan and the Civil Aviation Plan.

Organisation

Details of Command structure - co-ordination arrangements

In the event of an incident requiring National mobilisation, the National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) will be activated and the identified command centre made operational. The composition and function of the NDMC is as defined in *The National Strategy for Contingency and Disaster Preparedness Planning* [ref. 2] its responsibility with regard to this plan is given in section 0 below. As for all oil spillages outside the Port, the Navy is the primary Agency responsibility for response, therefore termed the 'Lead Body' for the purposes of this plan. They will set up and chair a task force comprising of the organisations shown in the organogram in Figure 1. This Task Force will be the executive arm of the NDMC providing the expertise and resource to make decisions and take action on the ground. The co-ordination arrangements will enable resources to be made available through mutual help agreements with the Ports Authority, Shell, Elf, Castle and the Local Municipality. There must, however, be a formal agreement in place to

ensure that their response will be guaranteed in the event of an incident. Evidence of this agreement should form part of this plan once finalised.

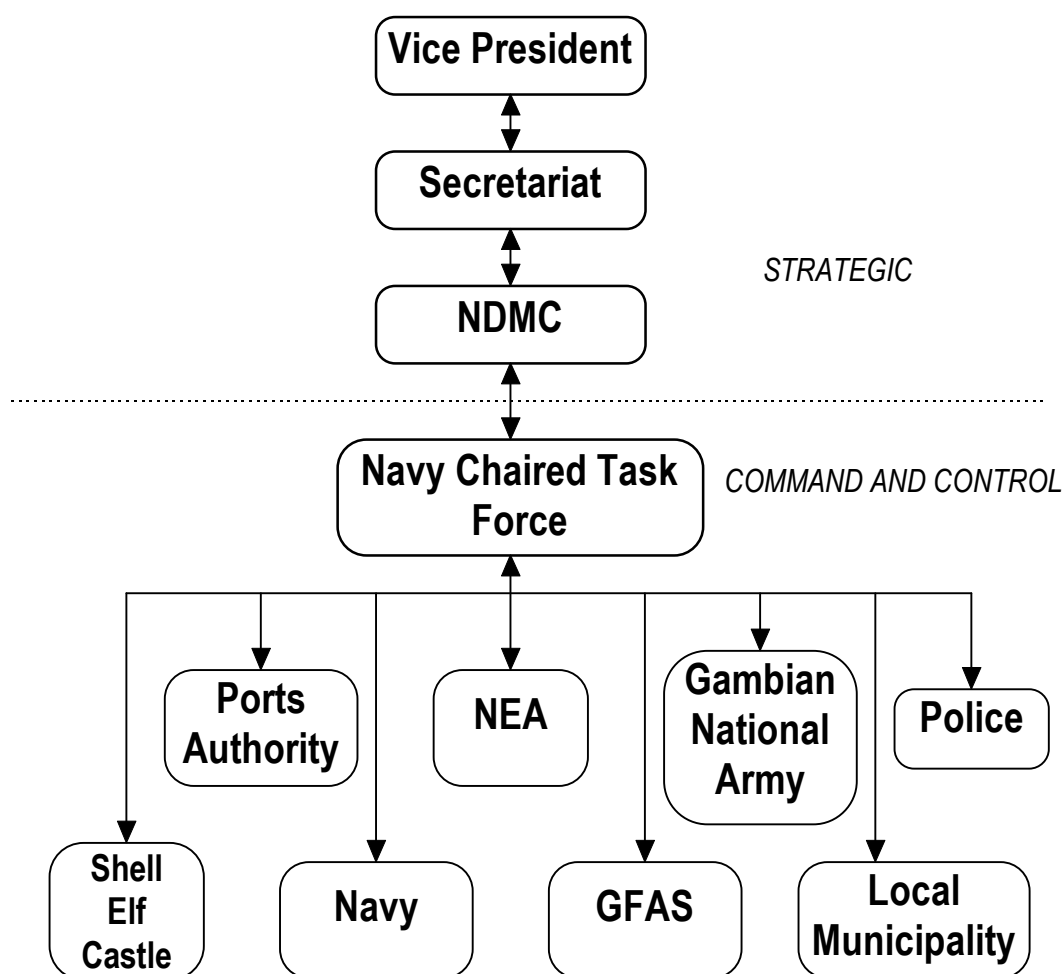


Figure 1: Command and Control Structure, Coastline Oil Spill

responsibilities of lead bodies and Key stakeholder organisations

In carrying out these marine protection functions, the Navy collaborates with the other key stakeholders. In circumstances where oil was leaking into the sea close to the Gambia River, the Navy would work closely with the Gambian Ports Authority (GPA), the National Environment Agency (NEA), the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and, if Company related, Shell, Elf, Castle. Once the oil reaches shore the Army would co-ordinate land based resources on behalf of the Navy and keeping them informed at all times.

The Secretariat for Emergencies

This is a body that will be responsible for the organisation of the Centre for National Emergencies. One of its members will be the designated Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator. This person will remain within communication range at all times to receive alerts of a national emergency and to inform the Vice President and to convene the NDMC. The responsibilities of this secretariat are:

- to be available for alerts 24 hours each day
- informing the vice president in the event of a national emergency
- convening the NDMC in the event of an emergency
- liaison with lead bodies
- ensuring that the Centre for National Emergencies is set up with appropriate equipment, staff and other resources in the event of an emergency
- keeping an up to date library of all National and Divisional contingency plans and other relevant information
- ensuring that these plans are updated as necessary and re-issued to copy holders
- ensuring that the necessary procedures for the implementation of the arrangements contained in the contingency plans are being produced by the lead bodies
- monitoring the progress of scheduled emergency exercises
- providing a yearly report to the Vice President on the emergency exercises (or actual emergencies) that have taken place

The National Disaster Management Council (NDMC)

The National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) will become involved when alerts for Medium and Large oils spills are received and is responsible for:

- overseeing the operations
- making decisions on requests for additional resources
- obtaining additional resources if required
- informing the public of any necessary restrictions
- informing businesses of any necessary restrictions
- dealing with the media
- contact and liaison with Senegal and other foreign countries, if required.

The Navy

The Navy will be responsible for the overall execution of the plan which will include the following:

- ensuring that an emergency co-ordinator is available at all times
- formation of the task force
- a classification of the situation
- an appropriate organisational structure
- command and control
- communications arrangements
- setting-up the Forward Control Point
- warning arrangements and alert mechanisms
- facilities and equipment
- co-ordination of resources
- countermeasures to mitigate consequences
- arrangements for assistance from elsewhere
- training
- exercising emergency plans

Its purpose is to provide direction and guidance to those involved in responding to an oil spill incident and to set in motion all the necessary actions to stop or minimise the pollution and to reduce its effects on the environment. The Navy will deploy a command vessel to a Forward Control Point. The choice of location will depend upon the nature of the incident and the weather conditions at the time.

The National Environment Agency

The NEA's role during an emergency response of this nature is initially to act as a reference source for relevant information and to sanction any decision which may affect the environment. They will assist the Task force and NDMC in the decision making process. Additionally, in conjunction with the Gambian based Oil Companies, they will advise on the most appropriate disposal or recovery method for the oil once contained. They will take the lead role in ensuring that residual oil is disposed of appropriately. The NEA will also continue to monitor the coastline after the emergency and act accordingly to ensure that any dispersed oil does not contaminate the shoreline, beaches and swamps.

The Ports Authority

The Ports Authority has equipment for dealing with oil spills and personnel trained in its use. The Ports Authority will be responsible for responding to any reasonable request from the Navy for assistance with equipment, expertise or advice.

Shell, Elf, Castle

Shell has an oil transfer facility at the port (also used by Elf) and skill and expertise in dealing with oil spills. Shell, Elf and Castle oil will be required to respond to any reasonable request from the Navy for assistance eg with equipment, expertise or advice.

The Gambian National Army

The Gambian National Army has equipment eg trucks and earth moving equipment that could be utilised in response to a coastline oil spill it will be responsible for responding to any reasonable request from the Navy for assistance eg with equipment, or man-power.

Local Community

The Local Municipality in urban areas has equipment and personnel that could be utilised in response to a coastline oil spill that threatens to come ashore. It will be responsible for responding to any reasonable request from the Navy for assistance for example, with equipment or man-power. In rural areas, the supply of equipment and manpower will primarily revert to the army, although manpower could be provided from villages under the administration of the District Commissioner's staff.

The Police

Once the oil reaches shore in urban areas, the Police would assist the Army. The Police has resources and expertise to supplement the role and responsibilities of the Army. It will be responsible for responding to any reasonable request from the Army for assistance eg with equipment, or man-power.

Communication arrangements

Robust communication links are essential to maintain effective command and control of the situation, in particular between the Emergency Centre and the Forward Control Point. Every endeavour must be made to ensure that the correct equipment is provided with adequate back-up capabilities. A national emergency number for the Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator will be set up which will be manned at all times to receive alerts.

Appendix 3 has the detailed contact directory and must be included in the finalised plan. The directory should contain contact names, addresses, telephone, fax and telex numbers likely to be useful during an incident. It is likely that this section will require updating more often than any other section of the plan. It is advisable to avoid the inclusion of contact details, names, telephone and fax numbers etc., in other sections of the contingency plan in order to simplify the updating process.

It is anticipated that the main means of communication will be via the radio and telephone. Gamtel has described a fairly secure system. It would be prudent to back this system up with a Pager system, mobile phones or radios. Gamtel should have their own contingency plan in the event of failure. The task force should consider how it would communicate in the event of telephone failure, a messenger system may be appropriate to supplement military two way radio communication.

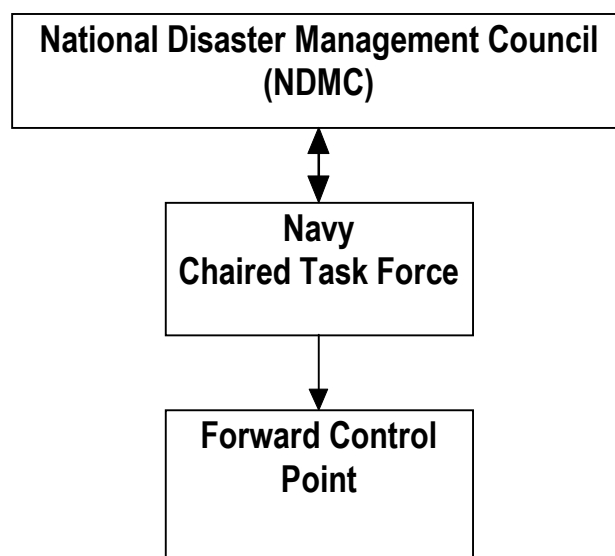


Figure 2: Communication Path

Record keeping

It is important that all participants log and keep a record of all events during an incident. This will assist the handling of the event as there will be an up to date record of what has happened so far therefore the emergency managers will be able to accurately review the situation at any given time. A recording procedure will also assist during the review of the plan following an incident with a view to learning any lessons and improving the plan and co-ordination for the future. The record should include details of all information gathered, decisions made, actions taken, communications made, and a summary of all key decisions made.

This information will also be useful if any liability, compensation or reimbursement issues arise as a result of the incident. **Appendix 4** provides a summary of what will be required as record keeping.

EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

Warning arrangements and Alert mechanisms

Alerts of oil at sea may be received from a number of sources:

- From originating ships master.
- Patrolling naval vessels.
- From pilots of incoming or over-flying aircraft.
- Senegalese agency.
- From member of public.

- Tourist birdwatcher/fisherman.

Alert mechanism will either be initial contact with an emergency service or by using a nationally known Emergency Response number for the Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator who will contact the Emergency Co-ordination Office of the Navy.

implementation ARRANGEMENTS

Provided below are the arrangements for the implementation of the emergency plan (0 also provides these arrangements but in a flow diagram). The arrangements should be carried out by the NDMC/Navy Task Force co-ordinated actions that use any existing written and unwritten procedures of the stakeholders involved. It must be a goal of the stakeholders involved in this plan to provide written procedures to cover the arrangements in this plan.

1. The incident occurs; there is oil in the sea close to the Gambian coast but outside the area covered by the Gambia Port Authority's contingency plan.
2. Alert occurs by mechanisms described in 0 above or some other means.
3. By means of the national disaster number, or via an emergency service the alert is received by the Secretariat Emergency Coordinator.
4. The Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator contacts the lead body emergency co-ordinator, in this case it is the Navy Emergency Co-ordinator.
5. The Navy Emergency Co-ordinator immediately orders an assessment of the spill. This means that via communication with the ship involved and/or independent action (such as an investigation conducted by sea or air craft) information required by **appendix 2**.
6. The Navy Emergency Co-ordinator receives the provisional assessment as soon as possible
7. If it is a false alarm there is an immediate stand down and the Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator will investigate reasons for the false alert.
8. If small, medium or a large spill the Navy Emergency Co-ordinator will inform the Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator and will convene the Navy Task Force for coastline spillages.
9. If a small spillage the Navy Task Force deals with the spill via local arrangements.
10. If a medium or large spill the Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator will inform the Vice President (if a medium, or large spill that is likely to make landfall in Senegal action will be taken to inform the Senegal Coastguard).
11. The Secretariat Emergency Co-ordinator will convene the National Disaster Management Council (NDMC).

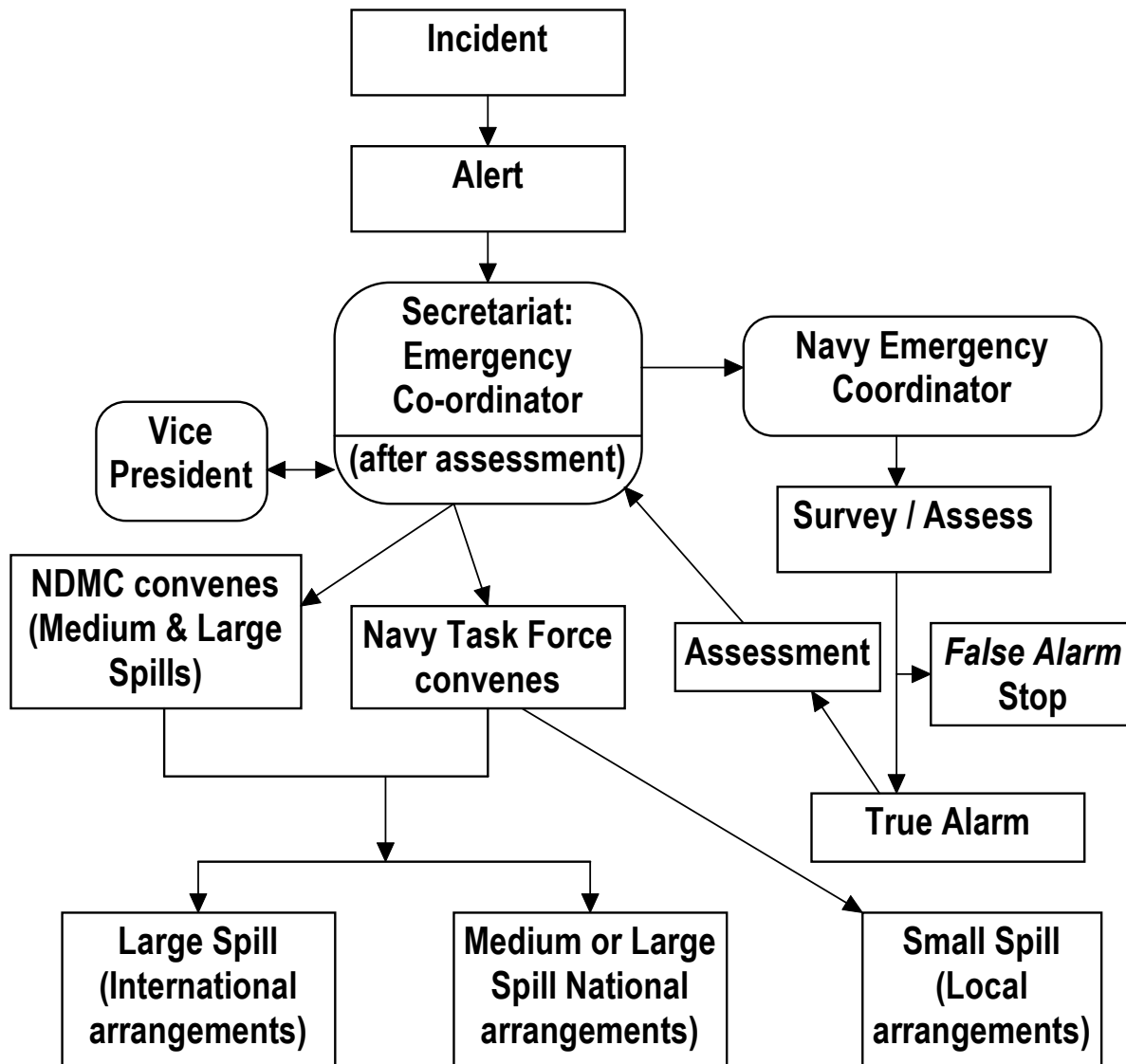


Figure 3: Implementation Arrangements

emergency control ARRANGEMENTS

Provided below are the emergency control arrangements of the plan (figure 4 also provides these arrangements but in a flow diagram). The arrangements should be carried out by the NDMC/Navy Task Force co-ordinated actions that use any existing written and unwritten procedures of the stakeholders involved. It must be a goal of the stakeholders involved in this plan to provide written procedures to cover all the arrangements in this plan. Copies of these procedures will be kept in the NDMC emergency co-ordination centre.

The NDMC keeps the Vice President informed, provides a strategic input to the incident response and facilitates the actions of the Navy Chaired Task Force (see section 0).

Oil at Sea

1. The oil spill containment resources within the Gambia will be mobilised (listed in appendix 1. The NDMC keeps the Vice President informed, provides a strategic input to the incident response and facilitates the actions of the Navy Chaired Task Force (see section 0 'The responsibilities of lead bodies and Key stakeholder organisations.).
2. The oil spill containment resources of companies who work within the Gambia will be mobilised (listed in appendix 1).

3. If the spill is going to be too large for the national resources to cope with the NDMC will arrange for the mobilisation of the designated oil spill contractors. These contractors must be provided with the updated information listed in appendix 2.
4. The Navy Task Force (with support from the NDMC) will provide co-ordination of the deployment of the resources of the Gambian Government, the resources of the companies who work within the Gambia and contractors.
5. The Navy Task Force will estimate where the spill will make landfall if it cannot be dispersed or contained at sea.
6. The Navy Chaired Task Force will ensure that all protective resources available are deployed to protect vulnerable environmental features.
7. If the oil spill is going to make landfall then the oil on land emergency control arrangements must be activated as soon as possible.

Oil on Land

1. The Navy Task force will provide the NDMC and the Army with an estimate of where the spill will make landfall and approximately at what time.
2. The Army will secure the area of spill landfall and take on the command and control of the activities that will deal with the spill on land.
3. The NDMC/Army will mobilise the local municipal authority and if necessary the army to provide a workforce on the beach.
4. The Army will mobilise and arrange for the deployment of public and private equipment listed in appendix 1 that could be used to remove the oil.
5. The removed oil will be removed to a designated waste facility.

Below is a flow diagram of the above arrangements.

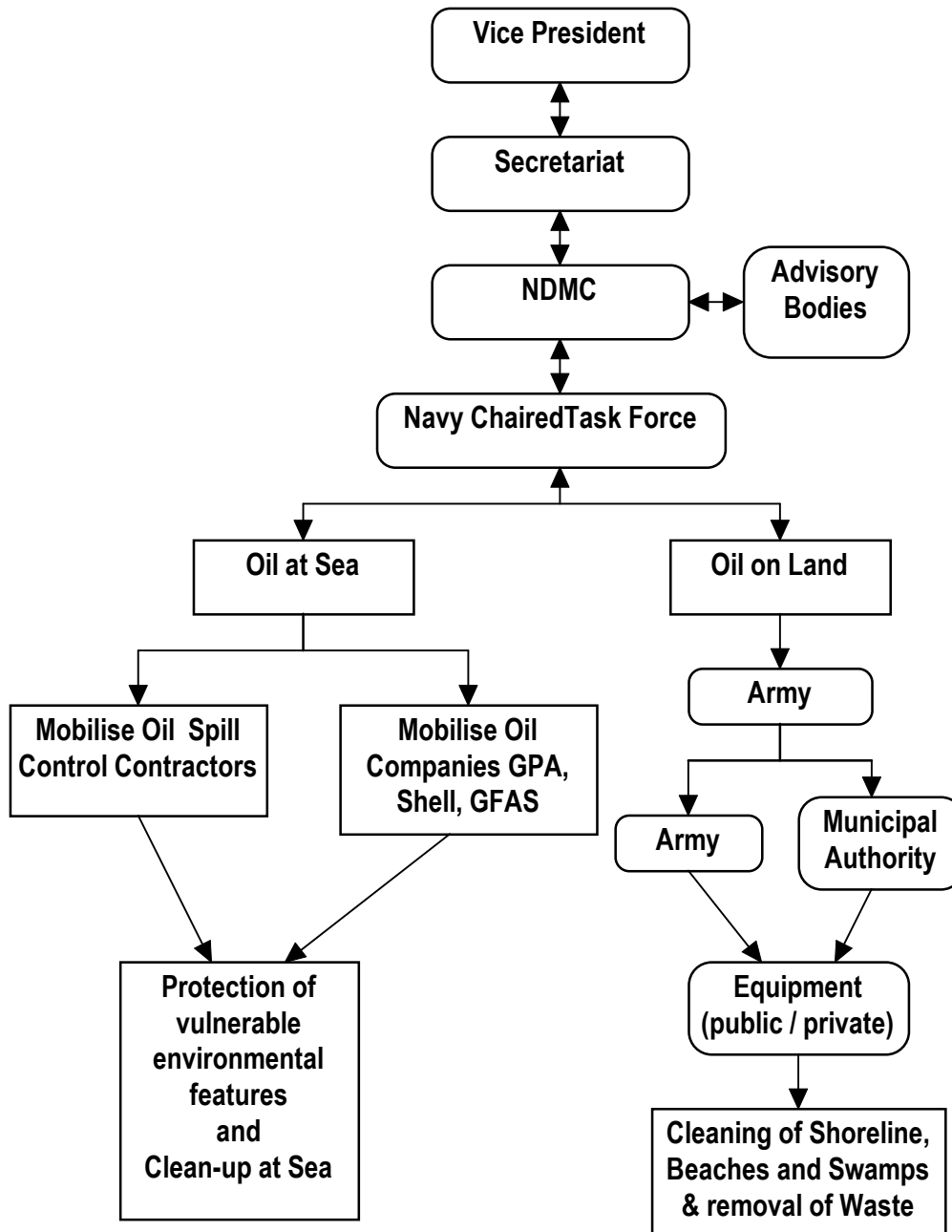


Figure 4: Control Arrangements

Facilities and Equipment

A list of equipment with locations that may be available for example booms, dispersants, bulldozers, tractors, digging equipment and contact arrangements is given in Appendix 1.

Stand-down

If the NDMC has been set up they will be responsible for declaring the emergency over and advising all participants to stand down. If it has not been set up then this responsibility will lie with the Navy. All organisations involved or contacted must be informed of the decision to stand down.

Debriefing and review

Following the use of the plan in an exercise or in an oil spill incident, its effectiveness must be evaluated. NEA should chair a forum for lessons to be learnt, feedback from the participants in the exercise or incident should be encouraged. The plan must be reviewed to include any modifications necessary.

A revision record should be included in the plan. All revisions must be submitted to the NEA for approval.

Training

The training, to be carried out in country and overseas must provide adequate basic training in dealing with an oil spill. However, the key to a successful impact minimisation is a rapid, well co-ordinated and integrated response. Those staff involved in the training should therefore be involved in regular in-country training exercises, involving other institutions (police, armed forces, other Government Departments etc.) likely to be involved in the event of a real oil spill. The training should be based on a variety of likely spill scenarios, until command structures and the deployment of booms, skimmers etc. becomes second nature.

Recommendations for training with regard to this plan will be made in a separate document. This will support the Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building initiative currently being promoted.

Emergency Exercises

Regular exercises are necessary to ensure everyone remains familiar with the plan. A series of exercises should focus on a certain component of the implementation or control procedures of the response (communications, equipment deployment, notifications, etc.) to ensure each element can operate efficiently. These exercises may be conducted in a 'table top' manner which means that the exercise conditions are simulated and the exercise participants, which should include representatives of all key players, conduct the exercise from one room. This is a very cost-effective way of training.

A programme of table top exercises should be devised by the lead body emergency co-ordinator. A complete exercise should be carried out every three years by the Navy Task Force to include callout, the establishment of a command centre, the deployment of equipment, the interface with other plans and communications with outside agencies and the NDMC.

The table below provides a suggested exercise timetable:

Type of Exercise	Regularity
Full Exercise	Every three years
Complete Table-top exercise	Every two years
Implementation arrangements table-top exercise	Every year
Control arrangements table-top exercise	Every year
One component table top exercise	Every 6 months

References

1. The Gambian Ports Authority Contingency Plan for the Port of Banjul, Final Draft - August 1994.
2. National Strategy for Contingency and Disaster Preparedness Planning, Momodou Njie, January 1997.

APPENDIX 1 EQUIPMENT POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE

Organisation	Equipment	Location	Contact
Navy	2 Main boats 2 back up boats rubber dinghy		
Ports Authority	300 m of boom		
Shell Elf Castle			
Local Municipality			
Red Cross	Spare Clothing Washing materials		

APPENDIX 2 SPILL SURVEY INFORMATION

1. Location of spill.
2. Source of spill.
3. Has the secretariat been informed?
4. Name of vessel.
5. Owner of vessel.
6. Time of spill.
7. Quantity (if known) or surface area covered.
8. Oil type and characteristics if known.
9. Weather conditions and forecast.
10. Estimated position of landfall of the slick if it cannot be dispersed or contained at sea.
11. Environmental features under threat.
12. Is the spill SMALL, MEDIUM or LARGE?
13. Is the Navy Task Force forming?

The Navy Emergency co-ordinator will interpret the information listed above and come to a decision on whether the spill and subsequent slick is to be regarded as large, medium or small. If the expertise to interpret this information does not already exist within the Navy, and a person with such expertise and knowledge cannot be recruited locally, the emergency co-ordinator for the Navy will need to receive some training on this subject. In the meantime the system should still be set up and best estimates made. It is suggested that a

standard sheet be made containing a table with the required information which is easily available to the Navy Emergency Co-ordinator. See below:

Information Required	Information Obtained	Notes	Time
Location of spill.			
Source of spill.			
Has the Secretariat been Informed?			
Name of vessel			
Owner of vessel			
Time of spill			
Quantity of hydrocarbon (if known) or surface area covered.			
Oil type and characteristics if known.			
Weather conditions and forecast.			
Estimated position of landfall of the slick if it cannot be dispersed or contained at sea.			
Environmental features under threat.			
Is the spill SMALL MEDIUM LARGE			
Navy Task Force Formed?			

APPENDIX 3 CONTACT LIST

Organisation/Person/ Deputy	Location	Contact

APPENDIX 4

RECORD KEEPING

It is important that all participants log and keep a record of all events during an incident. This will assist the handling of the event as there will be an up to date record of what has happened so far therefore the emergency managers will be able to accurately review the situation at any given time.

A recording procedure will also assist during the review of the plan following an incident with a view to learning any lessons and improving the plan and co-ordination for the future. The record should include details of all information gathered, decisions made, actions taken, communications made, and a summary of all key decisions made.

This information will also be useful if any liability, compensation or reimbursement issues arise as a result of the incident.

The NDMC and the Task Force Co-ordination centre will set in action a logging system of actions, messages and significant decisions. A 'Log Manager' will be appointed for both the NDMC and the Task Force. The Log manager should be an integral part of the team. The Log Manager will be assisted by a clerk.

Duties of the Log Manager:

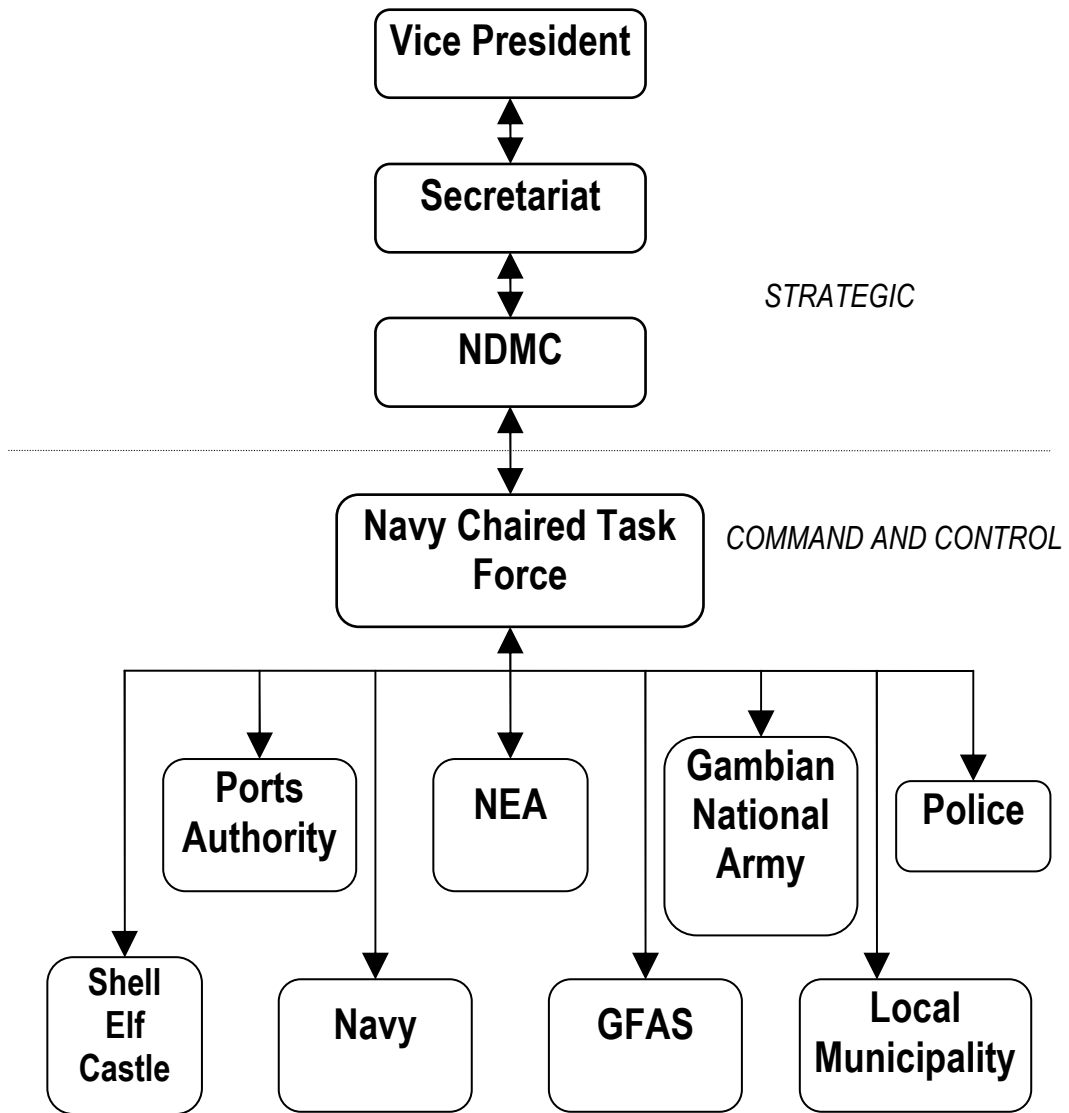
1. To maintain a timed and numbered log of events and messages in a log book.
2. The timings of significant actions will be displayed on a large black/whiteboard.
3. The Manager will receive a photocopy of incoming messages.
4. The Manager with the assistance of a Clerk will keep a not of incoming and outgoing messages by telephone and note them in the Log.
5. The Manager will allocate a serial number to each message.
6. Enter the time, who the message is from and to, note the content, and enter very brief details in the log.

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International Workshop on Contingency Planning



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that

WALTER KLOTZ

**has successfully completed the International Workshop on Oil spill Contingency Planning
held in Banjul, The Gambia from 31 March to 3 April 2009**

**and organized by the Disaster Management Agency, Gambia
with support from International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Government of Singapore**

Dr. Ajaratou Isatou Njie Saidy

**Vice President and Chairperson
Disaster Management Governing Council**

Miguel Palomares
Director, Marine Environment Division
IMO