

# NOWPAP MERRAC

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Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre  
Website - <http://merrac.nowpap.org>



## **Oil spill- risk, preparedness and response in the Northwest Pacific**

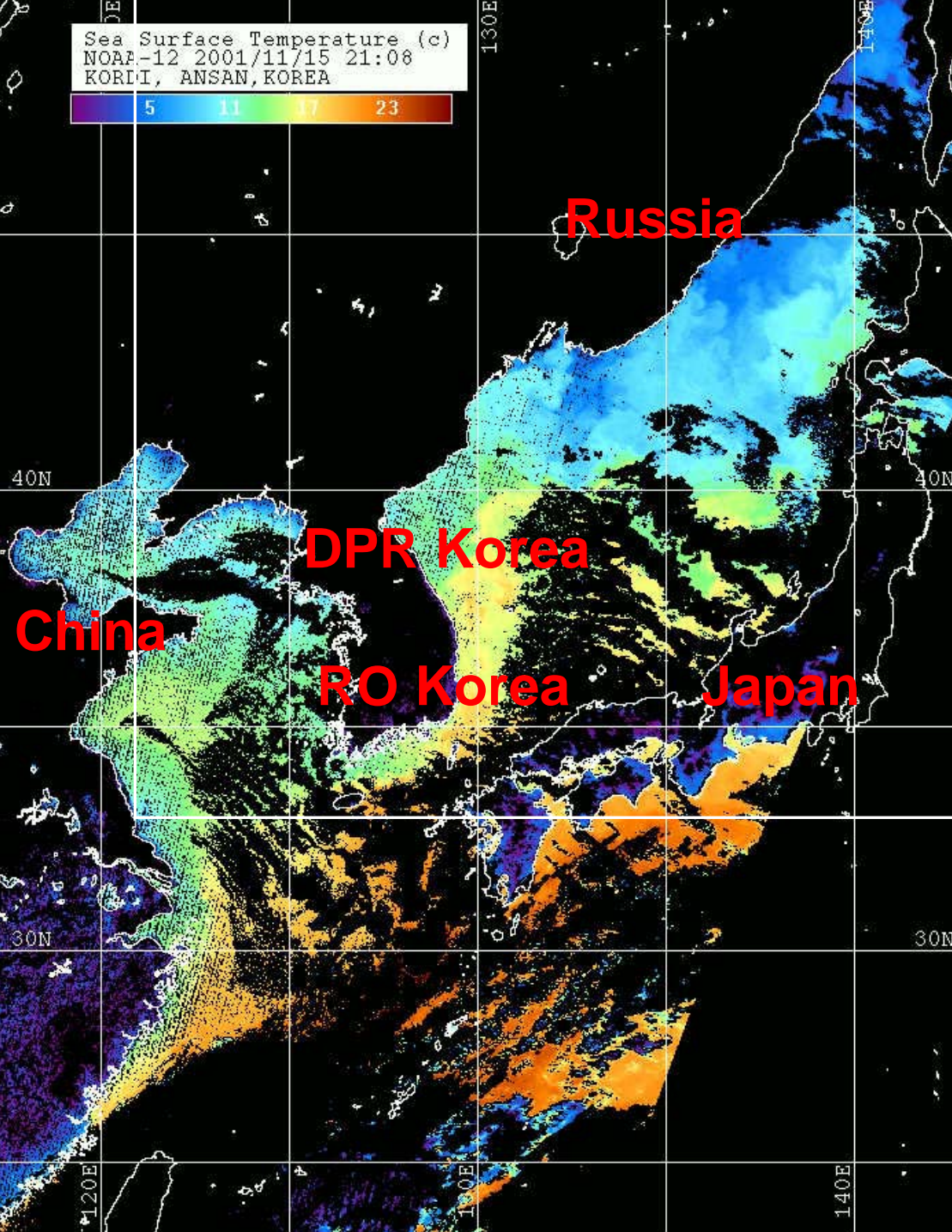
**Oct. 5 2005**

**Chang-Gu KANG Seong-Gil KANG**  
**Jeong-Hwan Oh**

**KORDI**

# Overview

- 1. Oil Spill Risk in the NOWPAP region**
- 2. What's MERRAC ?**
- 3. MERRAC's activities on regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness & response**
- 4. NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan**
- 5. Conclusion**



# 1. Oil Spill Risk in NOWPAP Region

- 33°N~52°N, 121°E~143°E
- Bordering 5 countries
- Complicate political issues
- Different economic status
- High population
- Rapid industrialization
- No marine environmental conservation strategy & action



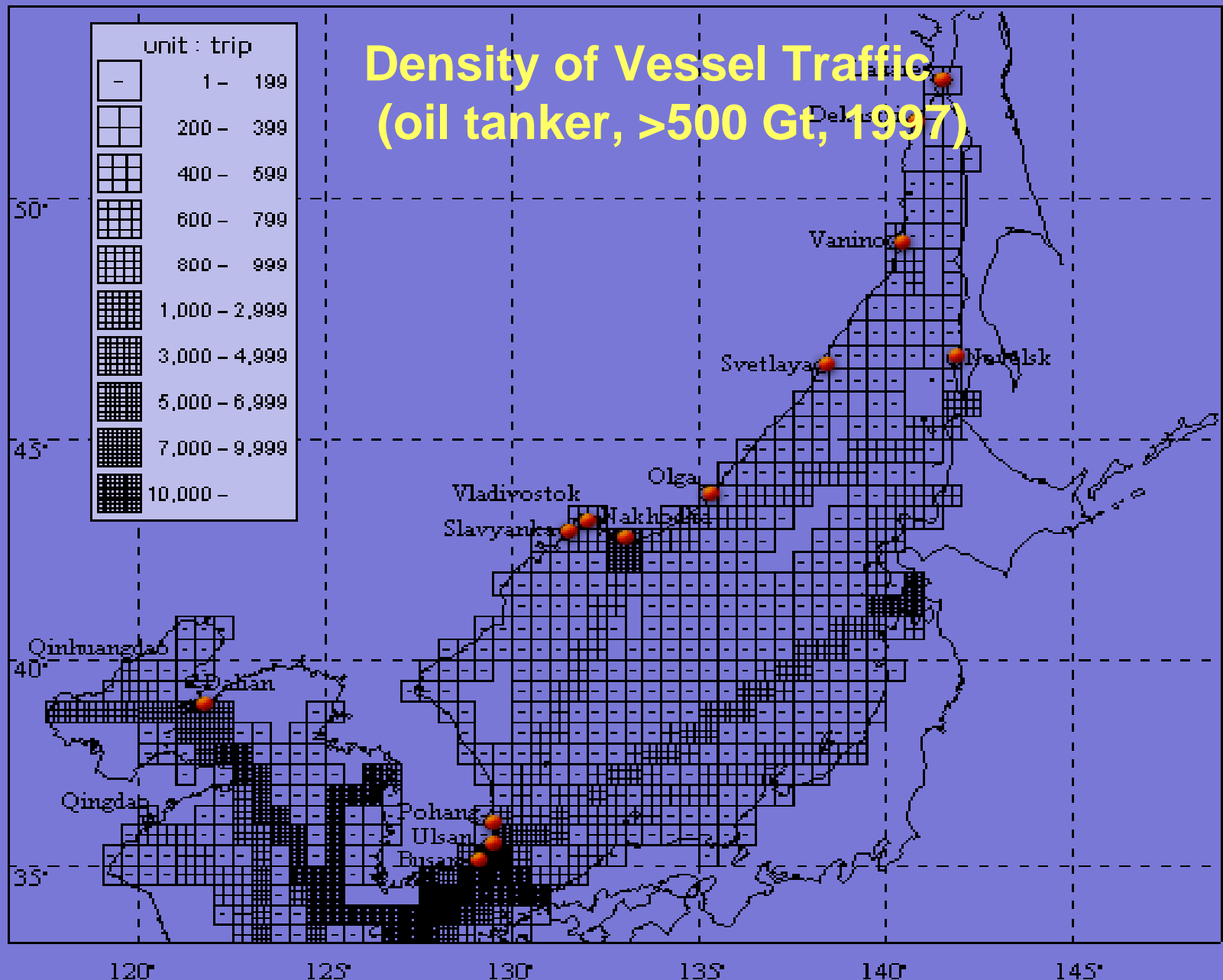
**Degradation of  
Marine Environments**

# Environmental Threats in NW Pacific

- Land-based pollutants from sources such as industries, municipalities agricultures and so on, including chemicals (PCBs and DDT), tar balls, heavy metals and marine debris
- Eutrophication in coastal zone : red tide
- Marine litters
- Habitat and community modification .....
- Heavy tanker traffic in coastal zone, transporting crude oil to Japan, China, Korea and Russia - high risk of oil pollution



# Density of Vessel Traffic (oil tanker, >500 Gt, 1997)



The distribution map for the density of tanker traffic, 1997  
(The tanker, 500G/Tor more)

\* An unit of division is 0.5 degree square of Latitude / Longitude





Sea Prince accident  
(5,035 tons, '95.7)



Nakhodka accident  
(6,240 tons, '97.1)

# Statistics on Oil Spill Accidents in NOWPAP Sea Area ('90-'02)






Category	No. of Cases
Major Oil Spills (>1,000 tons)	16
Intermediate Oil Spills (50~1,000)	115
Small Oil Spills (<50)	Several thousands

Kill by Oil Spill,  
by Richard Mock (1991)





# Comparison of Risk and Preparedness for 19 Regional Sea Areas

Regional Sea	Risk Category	Level of Preparedness	Priority ranking
<i>North-east Pacific (NEP)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>South-east Pacific (SE/PCF)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Upper South-west Atlantic (SWAT)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Wider Caribbean (WCR)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>West &amp; Central Africa (WACAF)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Eastern Africa (EAF)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Red Sea &amp; Gulf of Aden (PERSGA)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Gulf Area (ROPME)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Mediterranean (MED)</i>	 <i>High</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Black Sea (BLACK)</i>	 <i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+2</i>
<i>Caspian</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Baltic (HELCOM)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>-1</i>
<i>North-east Atlantic (OSPAR)</i>	 <i>High</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>South Asian Seas (SAS)</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>East Asian Seas (EAS)</i>	 <i>High</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>South Pacific (SPREP)</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>North-west Pacific (NOWPAP)</i>	 <i>High</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>+1</i>
<i>Arctic</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>-1</i>
<i>Antarctic</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>0</i>



- High Risk of Oil Spill
- Low Level of Preparedness for Oil Spill



**The Mission of MERRAC is.....**

**to develop the regional cooperative system on marine pollution preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region**



## 2. What's MERRAC?

### Its Mission--

- MERRAC is designated to coordinate regional activities relating to development of effective measures for regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region, with supports from NOWPAP RCU, UNEP and IMO.



# Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP): One of 17 Regional Seas Programme (UNEP)



Adopted by China, Japan, R. Korea and Russia in 1994



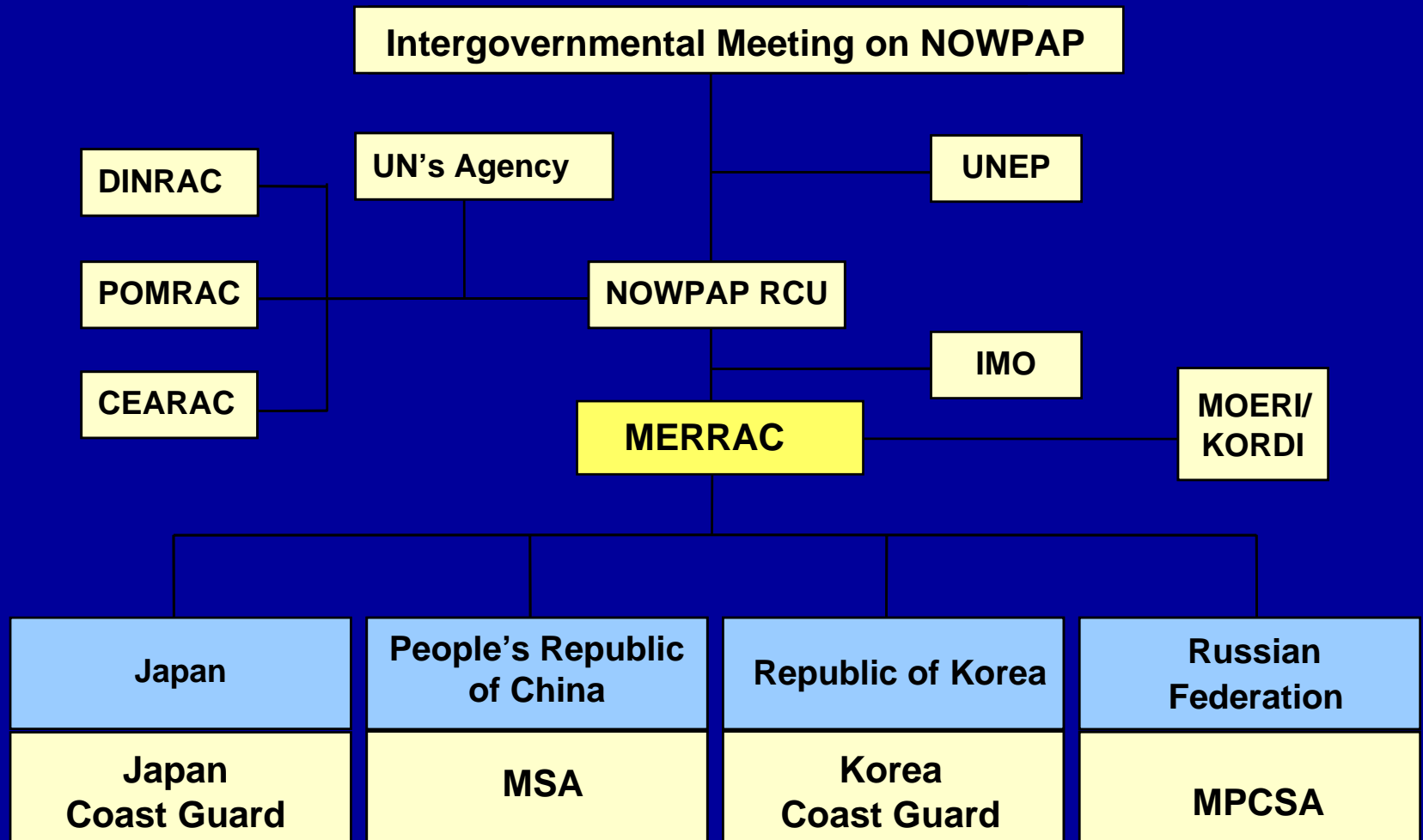
# Early History ( - 2000)

- Sep. 1994 : 1<sup>st</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting on NOWPAP – Adoption of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) by four countries (China, Japan, R.Korea, Russia) as one of UNEP's Regional Seas Programs
- 6-7 April 1999 : 4<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM – Decision of establishment of MERRAC and other 3 RACs to implement the NOWPAP projects
- 22 March 2000 : Opening ceremony of MERRAC office at MOERI/KORDI in Daejeon, Korea
- 28 July 2000 : Final signature of MOU among UNEP, IMO and MOERI/KORDI regarding the establishment & operation of MERRAC





# Institutional Arrangement of MERRAC



“MERRAC is operating the system of National Focal Point for MERRAC, who is nominated by each country and is responsible for the marine pollution preparedness and response in the respective NOWPAP Members”

# 3. MERRAC's Activities

## on regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness and response

- MERRAC has carried out various regional activities relating to the development of effective measures for regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region
- MERRAC covers the secretariat for NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Focal Points Meeting and NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan
- MERRAC cooperates with NOWPAP RCU, UNEP, IMO, and other international/regional organizations for establishment of a regional cooperation framework to prepare for and respond to marine pollution emergency.
- MERRAC carries out special activities designated under its Terms of Reference (TOR).

# 1) Organization of MERRAC FPM (MERRAC, in May)



**The 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting &  
1st Competent National Authorities Meeting  
(MERRAC, Daejeon, 24-27 May 2005, organized by RCU, IMO& MERRAC)**

- **Exchange relevant information**
  - Focal Points
  - Information System (equipment, institutions, experts)
  - Oil pollution incidents
- **Review Specific Projects**
  - Regional Oil Spill Prediction Model
  - Regional mapping of Vulnerable Resources
  - Minimum Level of Preparedness
  - publication of Technical Report  
(ESI map, Shoreline Clean-up, Oil dispersants)
- **Update of NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan**
- **Coordinating workplan and budget**
- **Others**



## **2) Organization of the Expert meeting and Training Course**

Expert Advisory Group Meeting on NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Tokyo, Japan, 5-9 Nov. 2001)

2002 NOWPAP Regional OPRC Training Course (IMO Level 2 Course) (Incheon, Republic of Korea, 28 Oct. – 1 Nov. 2002)

2003 NOWPAP Regional OPRC Training Course (IMO Level 2 Course) (Shimonoseki, Japan, 10 – 14 Nov. 2003)

2004 NOWPAP Expert meeting regarding MERRAC specific projects and preliminary CNA meeting (Qingdao, China, 15-18 Nov. 2004)



**NOWPAP Regional OPRC Training Course  
(IMO Level 2)  
(Shimonoseki, Japan, 10 - 14 Nov. 2003, hosted by Japan)**

## NOWPAP MERRAC

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

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Website : <http://merrac.nowpap.org>



## NOWPAP Regional OPRC Training Course (IMO Level 2 Course)

Shimonoseki, Japan

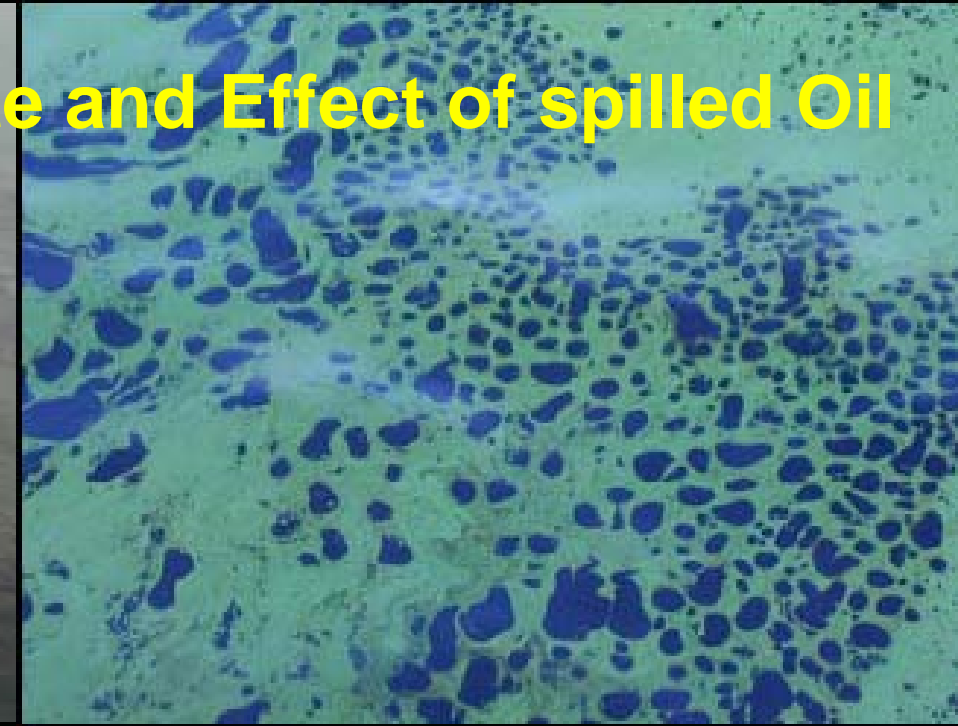
10 – 14 November 2003

Student Manual

## Student Manual

- Programme : IMO OPRC Level 2 Course (5 days course) aims to provide selected national staffs with the knowledge and skills required by On-Scene Commanders
- Lecturers of IMO, OSRL, EARL, ITOPF, IOPC

# Estimate of Behaviour, Fate and Effect of spilled Oil





# How to Respond and Clean-up jointly within the framework of NOWPAP Oil Spill Regional Contingency Plan



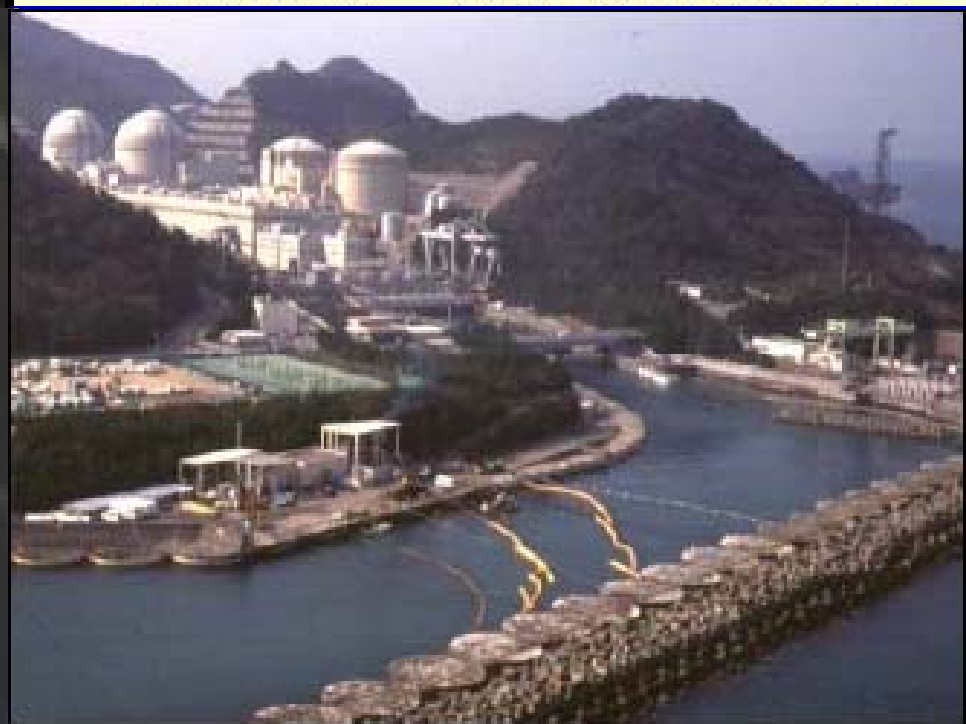
Where to look for the oil after 12 hours



Expected drift after 12hrs:

Wind direction: 20 knots x 12hrs x 3% = 7.2nm

Current direction: 2 knots x 12hrs x 100% = 24nm





**Table Top Exercise on  
how to carry out joint response operation**



## NOWPAP MERRAC

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

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E-mail : [nowpap@kriso.re.kr](mailto:nowpap@kriso.re.kr)  
Website : <http://merrac.nowpap.org>



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING(MOU) ON  
REGIONAL CO-OPERATION REGARDING PREPAREDNESS AND  
RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT OF  
THE NORTHWEST PACIFIC REGION

&

## NOWPAP REGIONAL OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

Note from MERRAC

The Plan & MOU were adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting of NOWPAP  
(UNEP/IMO/NOWPAP/MERRAC IG.8/6/1).

### 3) Secretariat of NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan

- Development of draft Plan and its MOU (finally by the 5<sup>th</sup> FPM)
- Adoption by NOWPAP members in 2003 and Signature at Ministerial Level in 2004
- Maintenance and Update of the Plan
- Finalization and Update of the Annexes to the Plan
- Implementation of Regional Activities as Required by the Plan

# 4) Publication of MERRAC Newsletters



## Newsletter from NOWPAP MERRAC

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

### Signing Ceremony of the MoU on Oil Spills

By the Director of MERRAC, Chang-Gu Kang



I am pleased to inform you that the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan has officially come

into effect on being signed by NOWPAP Members in November 2004. MERRAC held the ceremony for signing the MoU in Busan, Republic of Korea, on 2 November for the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM), where the MoUs signed by NOWPAP Members were presented to MERRAC. This event was held together with some other memorable events for NOWPAP - the opening ceremony of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) in Toyama and Busan, and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NOWPAP.

As you know, this region is frequently subject to major marine pollution accidents, as was the case with the Sea Prince and the Nakhodka oil spills, which resulted in serious environmental and economic damage. Following such experiences, NOWPAP members have developed effective measures for regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness and response as one of major priorities for NOWPAP activities. Since 1997 we have developed the Plan and its MoU, which will be a firm foundation for our strong partnership between NOWPAP Members for the protection of our common sea from marine pollution. The MoU and the Plan were adopted by all the NOWPAP members at the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM in November 2003, and the MoU was signed at

ministerial level by NOWPAP Member countries.

Much support and many contributions have come from the Member States, UNEP, IMO and other relevant international and regional organizations during the development of the Plan. As Director of NOWPAP (MERRAC is to act as secretariat for the Plan and MoU), on behalf of all the secretariats, I would like to express sincere gratitude to all of you for your valuable support and contributions made during the process of adoption of the MoU and Plan and signatures of the MoU.

The Plan will provide an official framework and technical guidelines for regional cooperation in the field of marine pollution and an operational mechanism for mutual assistance to coordinate and organize a prompt and effective response to marine oil pollution incidents which affect or seem likely to affect the Action Area of one or more of the NOWPAP Members.

However, many issues related to the implementation of the RCP remain, as discussed at the 7<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting. In order to discuss in detail practical matters such as conduct of joint training courses and exercises, financial matters related to mutual assistance, and national arrangements on customs and immigration procedures in order to facilitate the movement of response personnel and equipment, a preliminary Competent National Authorities (CNA) Meeting was held in Qingdao from 15 to 18 November 2004 following a decision of the 7<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points. The results and outcomes of the preliminary CNA Meeting will be discussed and reviewed at the next 8<sup>th</sup>

## 4<sup>th</sup> issue

- Published in March 2005
- Major Contents / 10 pages
- . MERRAC news
- . MERRAC activities in 2004
- . Congratulatory Address by Secretary General, IMO
- . Messages from all the NOWPAP Members & RCU



UNEP



IMO

## Newsletter from NOWPAP MERRAC

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

### Adoption of the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and its MoU

Greetings from the Director of MERRAC, Chang-Gu Kang



As the Director of MERRAC, I am very pleased to inform you of the news that the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and its MoU were formally adopted at the 8<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) of NOWPAP on 2 November 2003 in Busan, the People's Republic of Korea. As one of the most important decisions taken for MERRAC, the Plan and its MoU have been developed through several Experts Meetings and NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meetings of the NOWPAP members, since the First Meeting of NOWPAP Forum on Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response was held in 1997. The Plan and its MoU were adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting in May 2003 and then presented to the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP IGM and formally adopted by the governments of the NOWPAP Members. As such, we have entered the second phase in building a regional co-operative system on marine pollution preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region. This is a valuable technical platform for regional co-operation in the field of marine pollution and an operational mechanism for mutual assistance to coordinate and organize a prompt and effective response to marine oil pollution incidents which affect or seem likely to affect the Action Area of one or more of the NOWPAP Members. I sincerely thank the NOWPAP Members, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for their strong contributions and support for development and adoption of the Plan and MoU. MERRAC is the entity responsible for the administration and co-ordination of the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan in co-operation with national competent authorities. As the body responsible for the administration of the Plan, the Centre will keep the Plan up-to-date by reviewing and disseminating changes submitted by the Members. In order to achieve the Plan's objective of ensuring prompt and effective response and improving regional co-operation, MERRAC also promotes the joint exercise to improve national responses based on the Regional Contingency Plan. Through such activities, MERRAC will build a practically strong partnership and harmoniously carry out assistance and co-operation among NOWPAP Members in the field of marine pollution preparedness and response. Thank you.

### NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan

Since the First Meeting of the NOWPAP Forum on Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response was held in 1997, NOWPAP Members have developed the draft NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan, whose purpose is to provide a framework under which NOWPAP Members may co-operate in the operational level in response to oil spill.



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Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

### 5 PARTNERSHIP

RCU, Chang-Gu Kang

Meeting (October, November 2003), and the 8<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting (October, May 2003). Through such efforts, we were at last able to forward the text of the draft MOU and draft Plan to the next NOWPAP Intergovernmental Meeting for its approval. I sincerely thank the NOWPAP Members, UNEP and IMO for their strong contributions to developing the text of the draft Plan and draft MOU. After finalizing the text of the draft Plan, we also organized the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan (RCP) Training Course (IMO level 2) on 23 October - 1 November 2003. This gave Members an opportunity to study how best to cooperate as a regional body, by using the Plan when a major oil spill occurs in our region. As we have done and will, MERRAC will continue to do its best to achieve our agreed goals in the future. Even though implementation of our activities may be relatively slow when compared to other regions of the world, and has certainly lagged behind our original expectations, we will persist, step-by-step, in overcoming the difficulties and problems that confront us. As the process goes, a journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step. Thank you.

### RT A COURSE

Meeting

Such meetings have been held periodically from 1997, with participation from the following States in the Northwest Pacific region: Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation. MERRAC, with support from UNEP and IMO, issued a statement for the meeting. This meeting was the first time in its history that the MERRAC Focal Points Meeting and the decision was made by



MERRAC

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

### ER/RAC and who works there?

Northwest Pacific Action Plan  
Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Regional Activity Centre

Greetings from the Director of MERRAC, Chang-Gu Kang



As the Director of MERRAC, I am very pleased to inform you of the news that the NOWPAP MERRAC Newsletter, the first issue of the NOWPAP MERRAC Newsletter, has been published. The Newsletter will serve as a contact between MERRAC and all persons who are directly concerned with marine pollution preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region. We will disseminate relevant information periodically to the public, via this newsletter and the NOWPAP MERRAC homepage which is now being developed. The new Northwest Pacific region is frequently subjected to major marine pollution accidents, as was the case with the Sea Prince and the Nakhodka oil spills that resulted in serious environmental and economic damage. MERRAC is coordinating various regional activities in order to ensure prompt and effective response to marine pollution preparedness and response, including the development of the NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and the associated Memorandum of Understanding, in order to ensure its timely, firm and effective response to marine pollution incidents in the regional level. I believe that these efforts will assist in making the NOWPAP Newsletter more meaningful. I look forward to continue support and cooperation from the NOWPAP Member States, UNEP and IMO in carrying out the activities of MERRAC. Thank you.



## 5) Maintenance of NOWPAP MERRAC Website

**NOWPAP MER/RAC** [home](#) [site map](#) [feedback](#)

[MER/RAC](#) : [NOWPAP Region](#) : [National Focal Points](#) : [Information System](#) : [Oil Maritime Traffic](#) : [Oil Spill Accidents](#) : [Download](#) : [Plan & Conventions](#) : [Regional Seas](#) : [Links](#)

→ [Introduction // Investigation Methods](#) → [All Vessels Traffic Conditions](#) → [Tanker Traffic Conditions](#) → [Summary](#)



**\*PUBLIC NEWS**  
12/10/2001: A new IMO convention will prohibit the use of harmful organotins in anti-fouling paints us.... [more](#)

**\*MER/RAC NEWS**  
19/11/2001: An Expert Advisory Group Meeting on NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and MOU was.... [more](#)  
31/08/2001: The First Issue of NOWPAP MER/RAC Newsletter was published in August 2001. This newsl... [more](#)



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**UNEP** **IMO**

<http://merrac.nowpap.org>

# 6) Regional Cooperation with NOWPAP RCU, UNEP, IMO, and other Regional Seas and other RACs



International Maritime Organization

Third R&D Forum  
on High-density Oil Spill Response

11-13 March 2002  
Brest, France



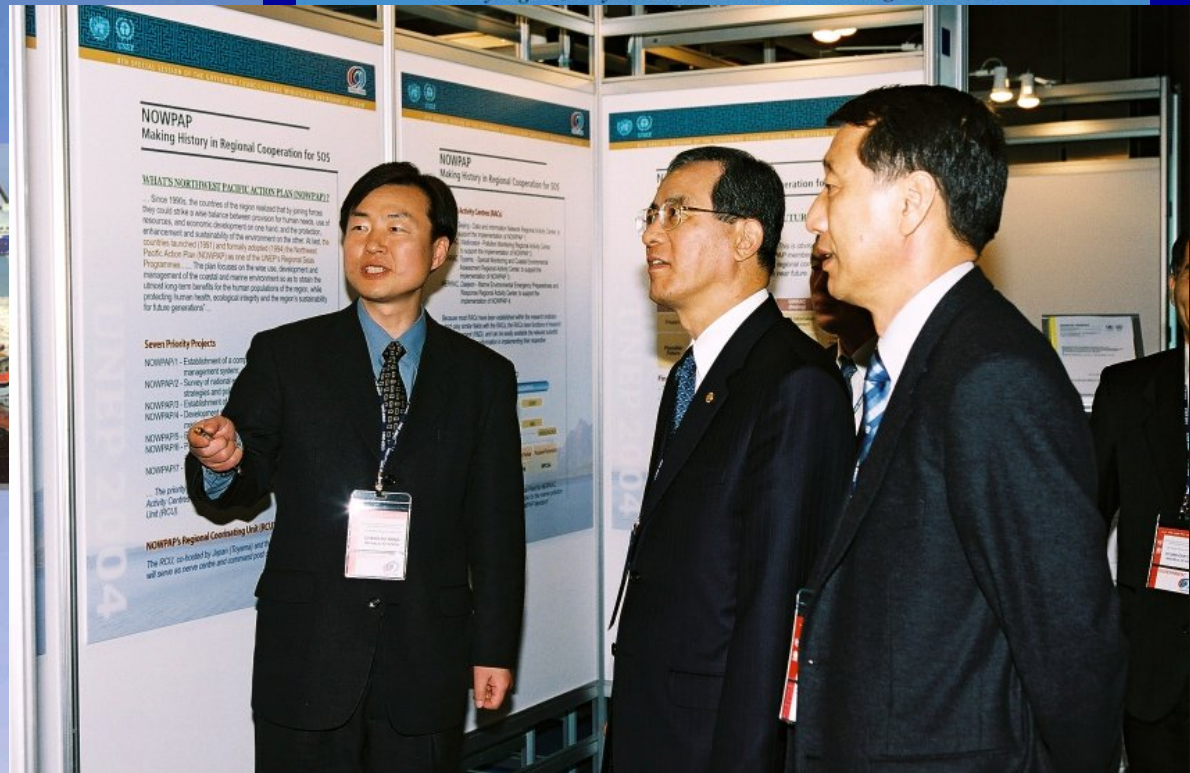
PROCEEDINGS



IMO/UNEP Forum  
on regional arrangements  
for co-operation  
in combating marine pollution incidents



Jointly organized by the International Maritime Organization and



## **4. NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan**

# 1) History-

## Regional Contingency Plan and Its MoU

### ◆ **NOWPAP adopted by the 1<sup>st</sup> IGM (1994)**

- As one area of priority activities-- “Development of Effective Measures for Regional Co-operation in Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response”

### ◆ **OPRC 1990** - accepted by NOWPAP Members after experience of major oil spill such as the Sea Prince (1995), Nakhodka (1997), etc.

### ◆ **Informal meetings** in 1995 & 1996- regarding the establishment a regional forum for regional co-operation on marine pollution preparedness and response



◆ **2<sup>nd</sup> IGM (1996) approved**

- NOWPAP Members establish a Forum meeting, which has the goals and objectives:

- (i) Exchange of Information on marine pollution preparedness and response
- (ii) Development of a **Regional Contingency Plan (Plan)**
- (iii) Development of its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

◆ **4<sup>th</sup> IGM (1999) approved**

- **MERRAC**, “Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response **Regional Activity Centre**” was established as one of four RACs

- ◆ **Development of the Plan**
  - through 5 MERRAC Focal Points Meetings and 2 Informal Expert meeting
  - Finally 5<sup>th</sup> NOWPAP MERRAC Focal Points Meeting (2002) agreed to forward the texts of the Plan and MoU to the IGM for its approval.
- ◆ **8th IGM (2003) finally adopted** the Plan and its MoU
- ◆ During intersessional period, the MoU for Plan was signed individually by each Members at ministerial level
- ◆ November, 2004 “Ceremony for Presentation of Signatures for MoU for Plan



# “Presentation Ceremony of Signatures for MoU for Plan” in Nov. 2004





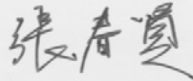
# Signature Pages of MoU signed by NOWPAP Members

## China

5

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed at Beijing on October 28, 2004  
by the following representatives of respective NOWPAP Members.

For the People's Republic of China



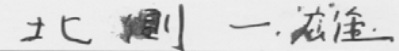
Name and title Zhang Chunxian, Minister of Communications

## Japan

6

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed at Tokyo on 19 October 2004  
by the following representatives of respective NOWPAP Members.

For Japan



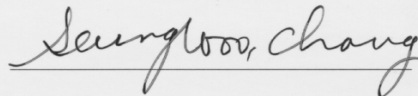
Name and title Kazuo Kitagawa  
Minister of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

## Korea

7

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed at Seoul on 05 Oct. 2004  
by the following representatives of respective NOWPAP Members.

For the Republic of Korea

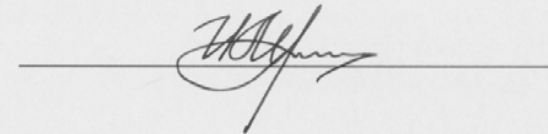


Name and title Seung-Woo Chang, Minister of Ministry of Maritime  
Affairs and Fisheries.

## Russia

The Memorandum of Understanding is signed at Moscow on 29 October  
2004 by the following representative of respective NOWPAP Members.

For the Russian Federation (signature)



Name and title Levitin Igor,  
Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation



MoU is ....

the confirmation of political will of the countries

- to develop regional co-operation;
- to formally adopt the regional contingency plan,
- to agree to implement the operational procedure set-up in the Plan in case of joint operation

## 2) Overall and Specific Objectives of the Plan

- ◆ To provide an operational mechanism for mutual assistance through which NOWPAP Members will co-operate in order to co-ordinate and integrate their response to major marine oil spill incidents in the region which exceeds the response capability of a NOWPAP members
  - to determine the means of co-operation for the implementation of the Plan;
  - to specify the type of assistance which might be provided;
  - to identify the operational responsibilities;
  - to establish the principles of coordination and liaison, and;
  - to specify the considerations necessary for co-operative action.

# Basis for the Plan

- ◆ NOWPAP Members should have
  - their own **National Contingency Plan (NCP)**
  - resources to respond to marine oil spills
- ◆ Response to a pollution incident within the Action Area of a NOWPAP Member should be
  - **with the provisions of Member's NCP**
  - **with their own laws and regulations**

# Relationship among OPRC, Plan & NCP

**OPRC 90**

-Umbrella  
for the Plan

**NOWPAP Regional  
Oil Spill Contingency Plan**

**National Contingency Plans**  
(China, Japan, Korea, Russia)

- Base for the Plan



# Designation of National Authorities and contact points

- ◆ Each NOWPAP Members should designate the following
  - **Competent National Authority** or Authorities with responsibility for oil pollution preparedness and response
  - **National Operational Contact Point** or Points, which shall be responsible for the receipt and transmission of oil pollution reports
  - **Assistance Decision authority** entitled to act on behalf of the Member to request assistance or to decide to render the assistance requested.

# Exchange of information

- ◆ **NOWPAP Members should exchange information**
  - Competent National Authorities, Operational Contact Points and Assistance Decision Authority
  - sources of oil spills and vulnerable resources
  - inventory of pollution response equipment and products
  - directory of experts, trained personnel and Strike Teams
  - rules concerning the use of dispersants
  - logistic support available within the Member
  - NCPs of the NOWPAP Members
  - maps showing the main environmentally sensitive areas
- ◆ **This information is maintained by MERRAC and is provided to the Members**

# **Pre-arrangements Relating to Administration, Logistics and Funding**

- logistic support (personnel, equipment)**
- Financial Procedures**
- Customs and Immigration Procedures**
- Overflight and Navigation Procedure**
- Health and Safety**
- Medical Insurance and Medical Assistance**
- Documentation of Response Operations and  
related Costs**

# Response Operations during the Activation of the Plan

## ◆ Response Phase

- For the purpose of the Plan, co-operation in pollution response operations has been divided into four distinct phases:
  - . Phase I – Notification
  - . Phase II – Evaluation and activation of the Plan
  - . Phase III – Joint Response Operation at sea
  - . Phase IV – Joint Response Operation on shoreline

## ◆ Phase I. Notification

- in accordance with the provisions of the NCP of each Member
- in the form of a **NOWPAP POLREP (Annex 4)**, if a NOWPAP Member become aware of a major pollution incident regardless of the need for the activation of the Plan
- National Operational Contact Points make further notification within the Member



# POLREP (Initial Information Format)

<b>AA. Date and Time of Incident</b>
<b>BB. Position(Latitude, Longitude)</b> (True Bearing, Distance From a Landmark)
<b>CC. Brief Description of Incident</b>
<b>DD. Ship's Particulars</b> (1) (Ship's Name /Port of Registry /Owner /Agent) (2) (Ship's Type /G.T/Draft) (3) (Number of Crew /Nationality) (4) (Type of Cargo /Amount /Owner) (5) (Type and Quantity of Cargo /Fuel Oil) (6) (P&I /Other Insurance)
<b>EE. Brief Description of Pollution</b> (1) (Type of Spilled Oil ) : (2) (Estimate of the Quantity) :
<b>FF. Brief Details of Weather and Sea Conditions</b> (time, date, month) (1) (Weather) : windy and cloudy (2) (Wind Direction /Velocity) : (3) (Current /Wave Height /Swell) : (4) Atmospheric /Water Temperature) : (5) (Visibility) :
<b>GG. Others</b>

# POLREP (Midterm Information Format)

<b>AA. Date and Time of Information</b>
<b>BB. Situation of Spill</b> (1) (Type /Quantity of Spilled Oil) (2) (Continuity of Sill) (3) (Spreading /Drifting of spilled Oil)
<b>CC. Brief Description of Weather and Sea Condition</b> (1) (Weather) (2) (Wind Direction /Velocity) (3) (Current /Wave Height) (4) (Atmospheric /Wave Temperature) (5) (Visibility)
<b>DD. Brief Description of Cleanup Operation</b>
<b>EE. Others</b>

## ◆ Phase II. Evaluation and activation of the Plan

- NOWPAP Member should **assess the pollution** by the spill and decide whether or not to activate its NCP and the Plan
- Lead Member should not activate the Plan without **first activation its NCP**
- **Surveillance of spill movement and behaviour** by aircraft or vessels (Annex 5)
- **Forecasting Oil Movement:**
  - . Gather information about wind, tides, current, type of oil
  - . Using a suitable computer program
- **Requests for assistance** within the framework of the Plan
  - . Following the activation of the Plan
  - . Through Assistance Decision Authorities
  - . Using the standard form in the NOWPAP POLREP (Annex 4)
  - . Immediately acknowledge receipt

### ◆ **Phase III. Joint Response Operation at Sea**

- should be conducted in accordance with the procedures described in the NCP of the NOWPAP Member whose Action Area is affected

### ◆ **Phase IV. Joint Response Operation on shoreline**

- **oil dispersants, in-situ burning or bioremediation** should be used in accordance with the provisions of the NCP of the NOWPAP Member concerned



## ◆ Request for assistance from outside the Region

- The Plan does not hinder requesting assistance from outside the Region or from the private sectors

## ◆ Termination of Joint Response Operation and deactivation of the Plan

- The lead member will authorize the LOSEC to terminate the JROs **when**:
  - . to a point where the benefits of further counter pollution measures would not be justified by their cost
  - . The response capabilities and resources of the Lead Member are sufficient for finalizing them
  - . The pollutant does not further threaten their interests
- **Following the deactivation of the Plan**
  - . All equipment which took part in the JROs be returned to its owners clean and in working order
  - . Each assisting Member should prepare a report of the part they played in the JROs.

### 3) Competent National Authorities (CNA) Meeting for NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan

- ◆ To discuss questions related to (as agreed at 7<sup>th</sup> FPM)
  - the implementation of the plan
  - response to actual incidents
  - organization of training courses and exercises
  - other relevant matters



### Preliminary CNA Meeting for NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan

(Qingdao, China, 15 - 18 Nov. 2004, hosted by China)

- **1<sup>st</sup> CNA Meeting for NOWPAP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan** (MERRAC, 26 - 27 May 2005)

- . Case study of other regional experience
- . Presentation and Analysis of National Contingency Plans
- . Pollution warnings and Requests for assistance
- . Case Studies and lessons learned
- . Specific topics of the Plan: financial matter, Customs etc.
- . **2<sup>nd</sup> CNA Meeting** will be held in Sakhalin in May 2006 in conjunction with the **NOWPAP Japan-Russia Joint Oil Spill Combating Exercise 2006** (NOWPAP Delta 2006)

## 5. Conclusion

- ◆ MERRAC has been building a **strong partnership** among NOWPAP Members and carried out the **designated activities** in the field of oil spill preparedness and response in the NOWPAP region, with professional supports from IMO, NOWPAP RCU and UNEP.
- ◆ Especially, adoption of the Plan and its MoU are meaningful this is the **first agreement** actually signed under NOWPAP, and it clearly demonstrates a spirit of **co-operation for the protection** of the precious and delicate **marine and coastal environments** in the NOWPAP region.
- ◆ As this, the four countries of the NOWPAP region are in a **better state of preparedness to respond to oil spills**, as each of them may request assistance from the other three NOWPAP members in cases of large oil spill emergencies.



- ◆ The Plan will provide
  - an **official framework and technical guidelines** for regional co-operation and
  - an **operational mechanism for mutual assistance** to coordinate and organize a prompt and effective response to major oil spill incidents in the NOWPAP region
- ◆ In the event of an oil spill incident, prompt and effective action within the framework of the Plan will **minimize the damage** which may result from major oil spill
- ◆ MERRAC, as a secretariat of the Plan, will keep the Plan up-to-date and also implement the Plan through the Joint Oil Spill Combating Exercise

**Sea Prince accident**



**Nakhodka accident**



**Save Our Sea  
against Marine Pollution  
- Thank you -**