

## **Regional Meeting on Reporting of Releases to Marine and Coastal Environment from Land-Based Sources and Activities and Related Indicators**

**Tirana, Albania, 19-20 March 2019**

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

On 19 and 20 March 2019, the Regional Meeting on Reporting of Releases to Marine and Coastal Environment from Land-Based Sources and Activities and Related Indicators was held in Tirana, Albania at the International Tirana Hotel. The Meeting was organized in collaboration with the European Union-funded Project ENI SEIS II–South Support Mechanism.

Following its deliberations, the Meeting concluded as follows:

1. The Meeting appreciated the work undertaken by the Secretariat in preparation of the Meeting;
2. The Meeting took note of the welcoming speech delivered by the Albanian Deputy Minister of Tourism and Environment, Dr. Ornela Cuci;
3. The Meeting appreciated the generous hospitality of the Albanian Government for hosting the Meeting;
4. The Meeting recognized the importance of PRTR as a useful tool to prepare the National Baseline Budget by the Countries;
5. During the Meeting, the Practical Implementation Guideline on PRTR was presented and discussed. The Meeting recognized the Guideline as a useful tool which identified main issues to be addressed in PRTR implementation process at national level. The Meeting requested additional time to review and comment on the document. It was agreed that Countries will provide their comments by 5 April 2019 aiming to finalize and submit the document to the MEDPOL FPs Meeting to be held in May 2019 for final consideration and approval;
6. Info/RAC presented the NBB InfoSystem as a reporting infrastructure developed by UN Environment/MAP demonstrating the system features and components. The Meeting recognized the NBB InfoSystem as the tool for uploading NBB data;
7. The Secretariat presented the Regional Data Collection Template to be filled in by industrial facilities and/or authorities with the aim to preparing the national reports to be uploaded into the NBB InfoSystem. The Meeting emphasized that the template responds to the needs of the Countries for a unified approach for data collection at national level;
8. The Secretariat presented the methodology for developing and applying national emissions factors that provide various options that can be potentially used by the countries for developing their own emission factors. Countries inquired about the applicability of the various methods and requested additional time to review and comment on the document to take into account a coherent regional methodology. It was agreed that Countries will provide their comments by 5 April 2019;

9. Countries involved in the 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle of NBB update presented the progress of NBB reporting, preliminary results for available data for the industries, and preliminary quantification of the pollutants/emission releases. The Meeting took note of work progress presented by the Countries and recommended timely delivery of their NBB updates;
10. UNECE presented a brief of the Protocol of PRTRs as well as current practices and recent developments focusing on the outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Round Table on PRTRs. The Meeting appreciated the presentation by UNECE particularly with regards to tools and modalities that can be used by the Countries for national implementation of PRTRs, and welcomed the offer by the Secretariat of the PRTR Protocol to support and assist the Countries;
11. The Secretariat presented the PRTR legal template developed to facilitate and support the drafting of national regulations by the Countries aiming to establish PRTR systems. The Meeting proposed some modifications on the document and requested additional time for further feedback and commenting to be provided to the Secretariat by 5 April 2019 aiming to finalize and submit the document to the MEDPOL FPs Meeting to be held in May 2019 for final consideration and approval;
12. EEA presented the overall development principles for the H2020 Assessment Report explaining how the indicators were mapped versus other processes, such as SDG, IMA, MSSD, and underlining their comparability to other processes. EEA further introduced the outline for the regional H2020 Assessment Report, expected contributions from the Countries, emphasizing timeline for data submission, provision of indicator factsheets, and the timeline of final completion of the H2020 Assessment Report. The Meeting appreciated the assessment approach and noted the timelines for completing the H2020 Assessment;
13. The Secretariat presented framing questions on the H2020 Assessment industrial cluster, their linkages with Regional Plans and implementation of NAPs, explaining the aimed messages that should be delivered on the assessment level to policy makers. The Meeting encouraged the Countries to address within their national assessments key national priorities. The Meeting took note of the framing questions and agreed with their scope and content;
14. Info/RAC presented the Spatial Data Infrastructure for the InfoMAPNode providing detailed information about the regional infrastructure aiming to collect and display georeferenced data. The Meeting took note of the features provided by the platform which will be used to support production of H2020/NAP indicators and requested clarifications about the validation process and accessibility rights.