

Shoreline Clean-up Workshop and National Oil Spill Contingency Plan Exercise

Freetown, Sierra Leone

14-17 October 2024

Global Initiative for Western, Central and Southern Africa

With the collaboration of:
The Sierra Leone Maritime
Administration



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NOTE

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1 Executive Summary

Organized by: Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA)

Supported by: GI WACAF (IMO / IPIECA)

Type of event: National Workshop

Date: 14 - 17 October 2024

Number of participants: 29 from multiple government agencies invited by the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA) were present.

Location: A La Lagune

Summary:

The National Workshop on Shoreline Clean-up and Waste Management and the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) table top exercise were phase 2 of the GI WACAF mission with the Sierra Leone authorities.

The purpose of the workshop was to equip delegates with the fundamental knowledge and skills to be able to supervise shoreline clean-up operations and conduct surveys of oil contaminated coastal environments. Having completed the 3 day training, the collective group represents an incremental improvement in the national capability to respond to future marine oil spills which may threaten the Sierra Leone coastline.

The rationale for the table-top exercise was to support the authorities tasked with updating the 2017 NOSCP. The format and scenario were intentionally designed to validate the key findings and recommendations already made during the first phase review of the plan. Meaningful learnings for the review team to consider when revising the NOSCP was the inclusion of the vital role of the Joint Maritime Committee (JMC) and its influence on communication, information flow and decision making processes. Additionally the mapping of the Incident Management Team (IMT) interface with the spillers management team was also identified as vital to an efficient and effective response.

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3 Presentation of the GI-WACAF Project

Launched in 2006, the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF) Project is a partnership between the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues, to enhance the capacity of partner countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills.

The mission is to strengthen the national system for preparedness and response in case of an oil spill in 22 West, Central and Southern African countries in accordance with the provisions set out in the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990 (OPRC 90).

To achieve its mission, the GI WACAF Project organises and delivers workshops, seminars and exercises, that aim to communicate good practice in all aspect of spill preparedness and response, drawing on expertise and experience from within governments, industry and other organizations working in this specialized field. To prepare and implement these activities, the Project relies on the Project's network of dedicated government and industry focal points. Promoting cooperation amongst all relevant government agencies, oil industry business units and stakeholders both nationally, regionally, and internationally is a major objective of the Project during these activities.

GI WACAF operates and delivers activities with contributions from both the IMO and seven oil company members of IPIECA, namely Azure Energy, BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Eni, Shell, TotalEnergies.



More information available: www.giwacaf.net

4 Introduction

4.1 Context

In their GI WACAF 2022 Action Plan the Sierra Leone national authorities outlined their priorities to update the 2017 NOSCP and review the draft national dispersant use policy. This work (phase 1) was completed with comments and recommendations to help update and improve the documents presented to stakeholders in June 2024.

As part of the action plan shared with GI WACAF, it was proposed organising a national workshop on shoreline clean-up and waste management. The option of an additional day for a NOSCP table-top exercise was taken up by national authorities.

Preparation for phase 2 started with tailoring of the workshop agenda to meet the specific needs of Sierra Leone which was shared with stakeholders for discussion, approval and organisation of the activity. A three day Shoreline Clean-up and Waste Management Workshop, followed by a one day table-top exercise of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan was held in Freetown 14th – 17th October 2024.

4.2 Objectives

The overarching objective of the workshop was to support the development of national capacity on effective shoreline response in the event of a marine oil spill incident within Sierra Leone. The workshop was required to provide delegates with a thorough understanding of the common challenges and complexities in implementing an effective shoreline response, from first response to termination including waste management aspects.

This was achieved through a combination of classroom theory sessions which covered fundamentals such as oil properties, weathering, responder safety, socio-economic consequence, waste management and Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Technique (SCAT) and practical exercises in conducting shoreline surveys and response equipment demonstration.

The objective of the table-top exercise was to test the organisation, processes and information flow as described in the NOSCP. The phase 1 review identified areas requiring greater clarity or detail which the exercise designers were able to focus on and draw more meaningful recommendations. The objectives shared with participants at the beginning of the exercise were as follows;

- Confirm stakeholder actions according to the NOSCP during an oil spill incident
- Verify the initial assessment, decision-making and escalation processes
- Exercise planning procedures and capabilities to select the most appropriate strategic response to the incident
- Understand the interface with the responsible party
- Understand the interface with response organisations

4.3 Programme

The workshop programme and associated materials were developed by Conor Bolas (ITOPF) and Marcus Russell (Emergency Preparedness Consulting Limited). After multiple planning meetings, the final agenda was shared with and agreed by the SLMA.

The original brief from SLMA was that for most attendees, this would be their first exposure to oil spill training. The content was therefore structured accordingly to give the fundamentals of oil properties and behaviour when spilt in a marine environment, an overview of general response techniques and limitations before graduating to the specifics of shoreline clean-up and waste management.

This included the principles of surveying oil contaminated shorelines and its role as part of a wider shoreline clean-up programme. The agenda is provided in Annex 1.

4.4 Location, Dates & Participants

The workshop and exercise were held from Monday 14th to Thursday 17th October 2024 at the Atlantic Lumley Hotel, Freetown, Sierra Leone. As the lead agency for spill response, the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMA) were responsible for identifying appropriate participants to attend both the workshop and exercise.

A total of 30 Government ministries, departments and agencies (listed below) were invited to the workshop, although not all were able to attend. The understanding for the table-top exercise was that a smaller group, maximum 15, of different delegates to the workshop with more strategic responsibilities would attend.

Invited Ministries, Departments and Agencies	
1. Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	16. Office of National Security
2. Environmental Protection Agency	17. Sierra Leone Disaster Management Agency
3. Metrological Agency	18. Sierra Leone Boat Owners Association
4. Ministry of Water Resources	19. Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
5. Ministry of Tourism	20. National Fire Force
6. Ministry of Justice	21. Conservation Society of Sierra Leone
7. Freetown City Council	22. Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources
8. National Protection Agency	23. Joint Maritime Communications
9. Ministry of Agriculture	24. Sierra Leone Ports & Harbour Authority
10. Ministry of Environment	25. National Protected Area Authority (NPAA)
11. Ministry of Health and Sanitation	26. Oryx Energies (Petro-jetty)
12. Ministry of Transport and Aviation	27. Conex Energies
13. Institute of Marine Biology and Oceanography	28. National Petroleum
14. RSLAF Maritime Wing	29. Petroleum Directorate
15. Sierra Leone Police Maritime Wing	30. Sierra Leone Metrological Agency

The advisers invited to facilitate this workshop were:

- Marcus Russell, independent consultant in emergency preparedness training, consultancy and technical support services, Emergency Preparedness Consulting Limited
- Dr. Conor Bolas, technical adviser, ITOFF

The GI WACAF Secretariat was represented by Ms Rim Al Amir, the GI WACAF Project Coordinator.

5 Activities & Proceedings

5.1 Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony was held on Monday 14th October 2024. Mr Emmanuel Lansana, Deputy Executive Director of the SLMA, welcomed delegates and made a declaration of purpose for the workshop. The Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation, Rex Bonafa, made the key note address and officially opened the workshop.

Opening statements were also given by Constance Sama (Board Member SLMA) representing the Board Chair SLMA) and Inatorma Coomber (Director of Admin SLMA) representing the Executive Director SLMA) and Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator.

5.2 Proceedings of the National Workshop and Table-top Exercise

The basis for planning the workshop was that in the event of a spill delegates would be field operatives with responsibility for supervising clean-up teams and conducting shoreline surveys.

Content was delivered through a combination of PowerPoint presentations, interactive question and answer sessions and video recordings. The programme also included a practical exercise for participants to practice using standardised shoreline survey templates and a demonstration of a selection of Oryx Energies tier 1 response equipment.



Figure 1 Shoreline survey practical, demonstration of tier 1 containment boom and recovery skimmer.

5.2.1 Day 1 Monday 14th October

Introduction of workshop objectives and presentation of the GI WACAF Project

Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator

Ms. Rim Al Amir presented the general objectives of the GIWACAF Project and the respective roles of IMO and IPIECA. She then showed the achievements, and the progress made in the region measured against GI WACAF's project indicators. The project manager stressed GI WACAF's commitment to build on its previous achievements and ensure continuity. She then introduced the current workshop and exercise, highlighted the objectives, and presented expected outputs.

Introduction and orientation

Marcus Russell

Delegates were given an overview of the potential challenges and issues arising from spill incidents, the topics to be covered during the workshop and how it will help improve preparedness for such events.

Fate and behaviour of oil

Conor Bolas

The key oil properties and weathering processes were explained and using case studies of previous incidents, this presentation touched on the potential impacts oil spills can have on the environment and people.

Hazards to responders

Marcus Russell

The presentation focussed on the importance of health and safety during response operations. It introduced the types of hazards and control measures to mitigate the risks, including examples of safe working practices safety equipment. The session concluded with a syndicate exercise to re-enforce learning.

Video – At-sea response

The ITOPF video on [At-Sea Response Techniques](#) was shown to introduce delegates to the principles of offshore response methods plus an appreciation of the realities and limitations of the techniques. Presentations over the following days referred back to the fundamentals introduced during the video.

Environmental and social impacts of oil spills

Conor Bolas

The session introduced delegates to the different sensitivities which can be adversely affected when oil is spilt in the marine environment. It included detail of how and the degree to which the environment or people can be impacted.

Containment and shoreline protection

Marcus Russell

Building on the earlier ITOPF at sea response video, the session provided greater detail on oil boom types, components, methods of use and limitations. It also covered the principles of selecting suitable protection or treatment techniques for different strategies.

5.2.2 Day 2 Tuesday 15th October

Recovery devices

Marcus Russell

Following on from the containment of oil in a boom, the session focussed on methods of recovery and skimmer types. The different operating principles, limitations and selection criteria according to oil characteristics were explained and discussed.

Shoreline types

Conor Bolas

Delegates were presented with an overview of the different shoreline types and their vulnerability to oil contamination.

Video - Erika or other Case Study

The video, although dated, is an excellent case study, giving the delegates real world examples of at sea response and shoreline clean-up. The first 15 minutes concentrate on describing the scenario, spill impacts and the techniques used. Content referring to claims and compensation was not played as it was considered less relevant to the audience needs.

Introduction to SCAT

Marcus Russell

The presentation introduced delegates to the principles of Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Techniques (SCAT), including the types of information recorded, the flow of information and how this helps manage a shoreline response program. The topics covered set the foundation for the shoreline survey practical scheduled for the final day of the workshop.

Introduction to waste management

ITOPF Video

The introduction to waste management video was not played due to the schedule overrunning.

Waste management and disposal

Conor Bolas

The importance of waste management issues in countries that already have limited capacity in the management of domestic waste has been identified as a potential bottleneck. As such, this presentation sought to encapsulate the potential scale of waste management activities required in the event of an oil spill. This presentation covered each relevant phase from segregation, temporary storage, transport, long term storage and treatment. With regards to the latter, treatment options for various types of oil-spill related waste were described and participants were asked to consider these in the local context in terms of developing suitable policy and solutions to capture within the NOSCP.

Shoreline segmentation

Marcus Russell

Building on the introduction to SCAT presentation, the role and importance of shoreline segmentation was established. The principles of how to define coastal segments was explained and how delegates may apply the process in the context of Sierra Leone. The practical exercise briefing also explained the rationale of the pre-segmented shoreline.

Shoreline clean-up techniques

Conor Bolas

The session provided delegates with an overview of mechanical and manual methods of shoreline clean-up. The concept of certain methods being better suited to particular shoreline types was covered. Firsthand experience and examples were given through the presentation.

5.2.3 Day 3 Wednesday 16th October

Roles of stakeholders and shipowner

Conor Bolas

With a focus on ship based spills an overview on the role of shipowners, insurers (P&I Clubs), ITOPF and the international compensation schemes was given. As oil and gas exploration looks set to resume offshore Sierra Leone, an explanation was included of the different response management practices between shipping and oil and gas companies.

Oiled shoreline assessment

Marcus Russell

The session explained to delegates the principles of assessing stranded oil distribution, thickness and character on contaminated shorelines. The expectation was individuals would perform the assessments in the event of a spill so they were also introduced to standardised reporting forms to record the information. Practice in using the forms was part of the afternoon practical exercise.

Practical

A demonstration of tier 1 equipment provided by Oryx Energy was conducted in front of the hotel. To emphasise the previous presentations the show and tell included questions and answers regarding boom components, mooring arrangements and skimmer recovery principles.

The practical tasked delegates with surveying one of three pre-defined 200 metre long shoreline segments. This was an opportunity to apply knowledge from the theory sessions and familiarise individuals with the use of the survey forms. Following a briefing of a hypothetical scenario groups were assigned a corresponding section of beach close to the Atlantic hotel. High levels of energy and enthusiasm were tempered by time constraints which potentially limited the learning for some individuals.

Personal log and record keeping

Marcus Russell

As would be shoreline clean-up supervisors delegates were instructed on the importance of effective log keeping and maintaining an accurate record of events. Their value in assisting with cost recovery, compensation claims and dispute settlement was highlighted together with practical guidance and tips on log keeping.

WAKASHIO Case Study

Conor Bolas

First-hand experience of the Wakashio spill response was used to tie together the theory of the workshops topics in a real world context. The Wakashio bulk carrier ran aground on the coast of Mauritius in July 2020, spilling approximately 1,000 tonnes of fuel oil into the pristine waters. The presentation explained in detail clean-up activities, waste management issues, cost recovery mechanisms and the challenge of responding during the global pandemic..

Closing Ceremony

At the conclusion of the workshop Constance Sama (Board Member SLMA), representing the Board Chair SLMA, thanked participants for their attendance and cooperation before presenting certificates of attendance and USB pen drives. The consultants thanked delegates for their participation and enthusiasm over the 3 days, and hoped the workshop provided

them with the knowledge and confidence to supervise shoreline activities in the event of a spill.

5.2.4 Day 4 Thursday 17th October

Table top Exercise

The focus of the table top exercise was more strategic. During planning the assumption was many participants may be unfamiliar with the NOSCP, the exercise purpose therefore wasn't to test knowledge or competency but instead walkthrough the procedures as described in the national plan to validate the process.

The specific exercise objectives were to

- Confirm stakeholder actions according to the NOSCP during an oil spill incident
- Verify the initial assessment, decision-making and escalation processes
- Exercise planning procedures and capabilities to select the most appropriate strategic response to the incident
- Understand the interface with the responsible party
- Understand the interface with response organisations

Spill information, injects and tasks were communicated to participants using PowerPoint slides. A credible scenario, using vessels that previously called in Freetown port, was developed including likely oil type and spill volumes. The scenario involved a vessel collision at the port anchorage.



Figure 2 Sample PowerPoint slide setting the scenario

- The Supramax bulk carrier Aruna Ece is at anchor for unplanned engine repairs after discharging its cargo at the Nectar Sierra Leone Bulk Terminal

- The Okee Cunno, a 1740 teu containership, is arriving at the anchorage awaiting a berth at Freetown Terminal when it suffers a blackout with loss of electrical power and propulsion.

- Despite efforts to re-start the main engine and generators

and to drop anchor, the vessel collides with the Port quarter of the Neptune Ece

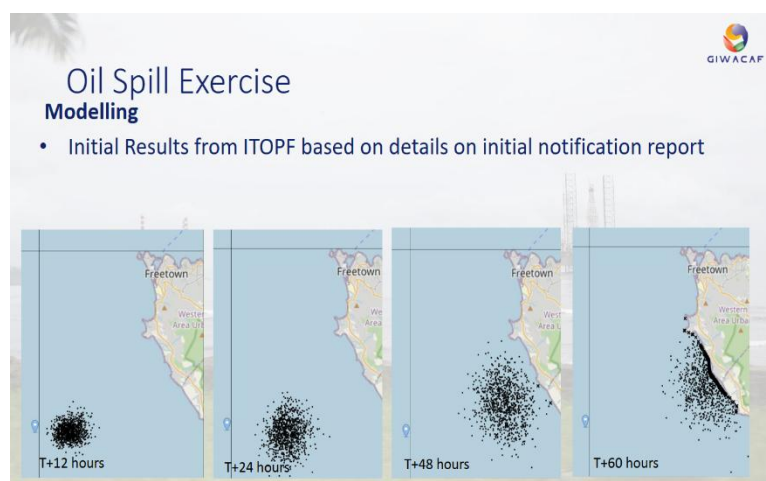


Figure 3 Sample exercise inject PowerPoint slide

Progressive injects introduced information on the developing scenario and actions for participants to simulate as described in the national plan.

This included evaluating the spill severity, replicating the Incident management Team (IMT) structure, developing response priorities and objectives. For accuracy the relevant sections of the NOSCP

were also shared with the group and the discussed to verify their thinking and decision making.

Wrap up and Closing

Following the end of the table-top exercise Mr Ronald Moore, Director of Environment SLMA, thanked participants and stressed the value of the exercise and lessons learned from it with regard to the updating of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

6 Observations and Recommendations

Over the course of the workshop the delivery team recorded their observations which were supplemented with a 'hot wash' debrief immediately following the end of the exercise. The main points of each are explained in more detail below.

6.1 Workshop

For the majority of delegates this was their first experience of oil spill training. The course was designed to cover the essential technical and practical elements to perform the role of shoreline supervisor in a safe and efficient manner.

The practical was an opportunity for delegates to practice conducting a shoreline survey in small groups and reinforce the theoretical learning of the previous days. Time constraints of the workshop meant the opportunity for in-depth learning was limited, further exercises to reinforce understanding and familiarity with the technique should be conducted.

The principles of shoreline segmentation were covered as part of the workshop presentations. It was ascertained that at present primary segmentation of the Sierra Leonian coastline has not been performed. It would be considered advantageous if this could be conducted as a pre-spill activity.

Further capacity building is available from the Joint Nature Conservancy Council (JNCC) Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCP). This initiative will provide additional specialist training (i.e. IMO model courses, Incident Management Team training, aerial surveillance, waste management, etc). The exact content will be tailored to the specific needs of Sierra Leone, it is therefore highly recommended that stakeholders collectively identify and agree perceived gaps to be addressed by the training.

6.1.1 Recommendations

Training

- The content of the OCP training should address the specific gaps and training needs.
- There should be training to familiarise users and stakeholders of the NOSCP of the changes once the update is complete.

Exercises

- Develop an exercise programme of different exercise types (notification, table-top, deployment) frequency and participants to maintain competency and core skills.
- Trained personnel to routinely practice shoreline survey techniques (use of reporting templates, identifying shoreline types, estimating surface oiling, etc). Time pressures during the workshop limited learning opportunities.

Response

- Establish a national response capability (possible funding through levies) to provide equipment resources for the initial response to incidents.
- Pre-spill, segment the Freetown shoreline SCAT data to expedite response activities.

6.2 Table-top Exercise

For most participants this was their first exposure to the NOSCP. Verbal feedback alluded to the exercise being educational and providing insight to the plan contents. Working knowledge of the plan may have been limited but the stakeholders present collaborated well to work as a functioning IMT. Participants also demonstrated in-depth knowledge of their respective fields of expertise .

The lack of a national equipment inventory severely restricts the effectiveness of any response operations. This is a challenge that's well understood by the authorities. The interface / relationship with potential polluters who have access to international resources and support is therefore important. The chosen mechanism must be capable of representing national interest in deciding appropriate response techniques and ensuring mobilised equipment is aligned with national policy.

It is vital that once complete the updated NOSCP is circulated and well socialised with stakeholders. Rollout workshop(s) to walk users through the plans content, roles and

responsibilities are advised to grow confidence and understanding before attempting more complex activities such as exercises and drills.

The role of On-Scene Commander (OSC) was not part of the exercise but according to the NOSCP the position assumes significant delegated responsibility (i.e. determining the fate of a slick, the tiering of a spill, equipment and personnel requirements, etc). Even with the IMT's greater resource capacity and specialist skill sets these delegated tasks were challenging. Time was taken to explore the strategic role of the IMT and the importance of establishing clear priorities and objectives to avoid overloading the OSC and creating a bottleneck. The revised NOSCP should reflect the structure and purpose of the IMT in setting the strategic direction for the tactical elements of the response to follow.

7 Participant Feedback

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants were asked for their feedback. This was collected electronically with respondents using their smart phones to access, via QR code, 16 questions of an evaluation questionnaire. In total 14 anonymous responses were received.

100% of replies felt that the workshop's objectives were met, with 86% considering the course duration to be appropriate to cover all the syllabus topics. A high percentage, 93%, of attendees believe they are likely to apply the knowledge learned and have the opportunity to transfer knowledge to colleagues at work.

There was no common preference when asked what topics were of most interest and relevance, with several replies acknowledging all subjects being of equal benefit. Overall, the participants expressed their appreciation for the quality of the workshop and its value.

8 Conclusion

The workshop and table top exercise were well received and the overarching objectives met. The revision of the NOSCP is the next milestone in improving oil spill preparedness and response capability in Sierra Leone. The recommendations from the first phase review and the learnings from the exercise should assist the authorities tasked with conducting the update.

9 Annexes

9.1 Annex 1 – Workshop Program

Day 1 – Monday 14th October	
09.00	Opening ceremony and workshop introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration • Call to order – DSMEP • Christian and Muslim prayers • Introduction of Chairman -DMSS • Chairmans’ opening remarks – DED • Statements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome address and declaration of purpose – Executive Director, SLMA - Statement by the Board Chairperson – SLMA Board of Directors - Statement by the Director General – NDMA - Statement by GI WACAF Project Coordinator <i>Rim Al Amir</i> - Key Note address and official opening – Hon Minister of Transport and Aviation - Chairmans closing remarks • Vote of thanks – Sen. Environmental Manager
09.30	<i>Group photograph</i>
09.45	Presentation of the GI WACAF Project <i>Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator</i> Introduction of workshop objectives <i>Introduction of the facilitators and objectives of the workshop and programme</i>
10.00	Introduction and orientation: <i>Introduction of delegates and ice breaker, including overview of Sierra Leone’s response arrangements</i>
10.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00	Fate and behaviour of oil - <i>Conor Bolas</i>
12.00	Hazards to responders – <i>Marcus Russell</i>
13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00	Video – At-sea response
14.30	Environmental and social impacts of oil spills – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
15.30	Video – Shoreline Clean-up
16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.15	Containment and shoreline protection – <i>Marcus Russell</i>
17.00	<i>Summary</i>

Day 2 – Tuesday 15th October	
09.00	Welcome
09.05	Recovery devices - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
09.45	Shoreline types – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
10.10	Video - Erika or other Case Study
10.30	Coffee break
11.00	Introduction to SCAT - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
12.00	Video - Introduction to waste management - <i>Video and Conor Bolas</i>
12.25	Waste management and disposal – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Shoreline segmentation - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
14.30	Shoreline clean-up techniques – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
15.30	Coffee break
16.00	Conducting a shoreline survey - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
17.00	Summary

Day 3 – Wednesday 16 th October	
09.00	Welcome
09.05	Roles of stakeholders and shipowner – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
09.30	Oiled shoreline assessment - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
10.00	Coffee break
10.30	Practical Shoreline survey of hotel beach front and Petro Jetty SL equipment demonstration
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Personal log and record keeping - <i>Marcus Russell</i>
14.30	WAKASHIO Case Study – <i>Conor Bolas</i>
15.30	Coffee break
16.00	Conclusion and closing ceremony
17.00	Course closure

Day 4 – Thursday 17 th October	
09.00	Welcome
09.05	Exercise
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Exercise
17.00	Debrief and Exercise closure

9.2 Annex 2 - Register of Attendees

	Name	Organisation	Job Title / Position
1	Onita Cham	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Quality assurance and compliance staff.
2	Ronald Moore	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Director of Environment
3	Richard Tamba Nannoh	National Disaster Management Agency-NDMA	Disaster Risk Reduction Officer
4	Abdul salaam Olatunji Noah	SL Navy	Marine Engineering Officer
5	Misheal Derick Kessebeh	Petrojetty Ltd, An affiliate of Oryx Energies SA	HSSEQ Manager / ISO Lead Internal Auditor
6	Cremelda Thomas	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Environmental Manager
7	Aminata Bundu Kabia	Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation	National Water Sanitation and Hygiene officer
8	Umaru Kamara	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Quality Assurance Manager
9	Isha Jebbeh Kpaka	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Marine Environmental Protection Supervisor
10	Michael Tamba Fillie	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Shipping Manager
11	Dauda m Kamara	Sierra Leone Maritime Administrations	Safety Manager
12	James K. Bassie	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Maritime Environmental Protection Supervisor
13	Tamba S Bundor	Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Affairs	Senior Tourist Officer
14	Ewart Brian Campbell	Sierra Leone Meteorological Agency	Acting head of marine Department
15	Duramani Kempes Sesay	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Senior Environmental manager
16	Saidu Alimamy Kamara	Replica of Sierra Leone Navy	Commander (Cdr)/Operations Officer
17	Joshua Bell	Sierra Leone maritime Administration	Shipping Supervisor
18	Yankuba Marah	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Deputy Head STCW
19	Isha Timbo	EPA	Senior Environmental Officer
20	Philimon Johnson	SLMA	Shipping Officer
21	GBAMANJA SAFFEA	NP	Safety Officer
22	Saidu kamara	Joint Maritime Committee	Admin officer
23	James Morlai Bangura	Petrol Leone	HSSEQ Supervisor
24	P C Bai Shebura Lion	S L U B O A	President
25	Frank Mani	Sierra Leone Police Marine	Administrative Officer
26	David AC Mansaray	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Public Relations Officer
27	Vanessa Mereweather Thompson	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Environmental Officer
28	Mohamed Marrah	Office of National Security	Office of National Security
29	Momodu Kobba	Sierra Leone Maritime Administration	Marine Environmental Manager

9.3 Annex 3 – Opening Speeches

Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator

**Honourable Ladies and Gentlemen,
Honourable members of the high table,
Honourable heads of agencies,
Deputy Minister of Transport and Aviation,
Esteemed participants,**

I am Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator.

It is an honor for me to deliver this welcome address as representative of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas association for environmental and social issues. I would like to welcome all of you to this national workshop on Shoreline Clean-up capacity building.

As I understood we say here, and forgive my bad pronunciation – **Gladifosiouna / Cabo**

The development of an efficient Oil Spill Preparedness and response system, on a national level, requires the commitment of all the institutions involved in preparedness and response, as well as public and private operators in the oil, mining, port and maritime transport sectors. We are pleased to see so many of you – if I am not mistaken, no less than 30 institutions are present today and will be present throughout this important workshop. This cooperation is beyond necessary.

The GI WACAF has worked with Sierra Leone since its' inception, in 2006: starting with a first national workshop on National Oil Spill Contingency Planning, followed by, few years later, workshops on the review of this document, and, later on, testing it – in fact, the latest review of the NOSCP took place very recently, reviewed by one of the present consultants which some of you might already know, Marcus Russell. We are beyond pleased with the investments and interest shown by institutions of Sierra Leone regarding the evolution of its oil spill preparedness and response system.

As I hope you know, the GI WACAF is excited to continue following Sierra Leone's evolution and progress towards its oil spill preparedness and response system. This biennium, huge progress has been made in the West African region – in fact, as I am speaking, GI WACAF Project manager Anais Guillou is delivering a similar workshop in Liberia. The GI WACAF is very proud to count Sierra Leone as part of this important regional progress.

Over the next few days, the key objectives of this workshop are, for us, to support the development of national capacity on effective shoreline response, in the event of a marine spill incident landing the shorelines of Sierra Leone. The knowledge and capacities you will have acquired through the following days will help you develop precise capabilities when it comes to response on shore.

Consultants Marcus Russell, from Emergency Preparedness Consulting Limited, and Connor Bolas, from ITOPF, have been mandated for this important workshop. Their impressive expertise, built through international experience, will guide you through any questions you may have – They will present themselves in due time.

Please take this workshop as an opportunity to discuss, to share and exchange on any questions you may have on the preparedness and response system as a whole – although this workshop may appear dedicated to shoreline clean up in terms of the knowledge acquired, we are also here to answer your questions around the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

To conclude, I have the pleasure to convey to all of you the very best wishes from the IMO Secretary General Arsenio Dominguez, and the Ipieca Executive Director Brian Sullivan.

Thank you for your kind attention, and I wish you all a very productive and successful workshop.