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# 9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference

Governments and industries working together to enhance oil spill preparedness, response and cooperation

Accra, Ghana  
7 – 10 November 2022

Global Initiative for Western, Central and Southern Africa

Organised by:



Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ghana



## NOTE

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IMO/IPIECA. 2023. Report of the GI WACAF Regional Conference 2022. 70 Pages.

## Executive Summary

The 9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference took place from 7 to 10 November 2022 in Accra, Ghana at the **Labadi Beach Hotel**. The Conference was organized by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and IPIECA, the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance, in close collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Ghana, more specifically the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It brought together key industry and government representatives from the 22 African partner countries of the GI WACAF project as follows: Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, with some 120 participants attending the Conference. The programme and the list of participants are set out in [Annex 1 and 3](#) of this report respectively.

The main objectives of the Conference were to:

- Address the challenges of oil spill preparedness and response within the region;
- Review the progress achieved since the last regional conference in 2019 in Cape Town, South Africa<sup>1</sup>;
- Facilitate information sharing and lessons learned;
- Strengthen the network of government delegates involved in oil spill preparedness and response in the region;
- Highlight the benefits of the GIWACAF Project; and
- Determine priority actions for the coming biennium 2023-2024 to enhance oil spill preparedness and response in the region.

In order to address these objectives, the participants were guided through four days of presentations, case studies, working group sessions, discussions, joint exercises and demonstrations of oil spill response equipment.

The Conference recommendations, as outlined below, are based on the conclusions of the working groups and on the information provided by the countries over the 4-day event. These recommendations will serve as basis for developing the Project's action plan for the 2023-2024 biennium.

### Main Recommendations

Amongst the different working groups, discussions revealed a common and strong desire for in-country capacity building/training of local experts. This owing to the fact that most countries in the region face common challenges in terms of oil spill preparedness and response capacity, but nevertheless have a strong desire to develop local expertise.

Following the “three-step approach” developed by the GI WACAF Project to define the rationale and requirements of an efficient preparedness and response system, the recommendations are aggregated under three main themes, as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> The Report of the 2019 GI WACAF Conference can be found on the [GI WACAF website](#)

### **Step 1: Legislation and institutional framework**

1. Reinforce the legislative assistance dimension of GI WACAF to assist countries in the transposition, domestication and full implementation of relevant IMO Conventions that have been ratified. This was recognised as an important obstacle faced by numerous States in the region.
2. Assist in the development of bi-lateral and sub-regional oil spill preparedness and response agreements and plans.

### **Step 2: Policies and processes**

1. Continue to provide assistance in the development, implementation and maintenance of National Oil Spill Contingency Plans (NOSCPs), which are recognized as the cornerstones of national oil spill preparedness and response systems;
2. Provide assistance in the development of Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs)
3. The conference recognized the importance of the GI WACAF evolving in line with industry developments and risk profiles (particularly around the diversification of fuels and energy sources). The GI WACAF should focus on this key dimension of oil spill preparedness and response, which has proven challenging to develop and implement, particularly as inland response, shoreline response and at-sea response generally fall under the responsibility of different authorities.

### **Step 3: Implementation tools**

1. Participants recognized RETOS (Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills) assessments as a potential approach to evaluate their preparedness and response capacities (whether from industry or government) but highlighted the need for more training on the RETOS tool and support in facilitating a RETOS assessment. Some delegates felt that for RETOS to be used effectively, national administrations need to invest in the knowledge and upskilling of their personnel, by promoting a better understanding of the tool and its purpose. This would ensure its proper application.
2. The ambition for this tool is to enable industry and governments to identify gaps and develop their own plans without the need to hire external/international advisors.
3. Develop a shared database or roster of local/regional experts to expand the network; it is important that the project highlights the expertise within the region, whether from industry or government (not only those employed by GI WACAF as consultants, but also the direct engagement of partners)
4. Expressed interest for the creation of a forum for the publication of activities allowing questions to be shared and dialogue to be initiated between stakeholders was proposed.

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# 1. GI WACAF Project Overview

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 systems 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 organizes and delivers workshops, seminars and exercises that aim to promote good practice in all aspects 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 its 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 six petroleum company members of IPIECA, namely BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Eni, Shell, and TotalEnergies (TE).



## 2. Background and Introduction

The GI WACAF Project was launched in 2006 with the broad aim of developing and improving capability in oil spill preparedness, response and cooperation within the 22 countries of West, Central, and Southern Africa.

The gap analysis undertaken in 2006 by the project showed low levels of national preparedness and response capability across the region. Between 2006 and 2009, the project implemented over 25 workshops across 16 different countries in the region, focusing predominantly on developing the foundation for national preparedness and response systems. Since 2010, the work program of the GI WACAF Project has evolved and diversified. It now incorporates more regional and sub-regional activities, supports exercises to test capability, and provides guidance and assistance on an increasingly varied array of technical topics and policies, tailored to support ongoing in-country developments.

Organized every two years at the end of the biennial cycle, the GI WACAF Regional Conference forms an integral part of the management of the GI WACAF Project. The event gathers industry and government focal points from across the region with the objective to exchange experiences, review progress achieved, and prioritize project goals for the next biennium.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa ([GI WACAF](#)) Conference, took place in Accra, Ghana, from 7 to 10 November 2022. The Conference was organized by IMO and IPIECA, in close collaboration with the Government of Ghana, particularly the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It brought together key government and industry representatives from the 22 African partner countries of the GI WACAF project: Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.



*Picture 1. Participants during the first day of conference*



## 3. Objectives

The objectives of this conference were to:

- Reconnect physically after a remote adaptation, necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Present recent and ongoing activities in the WACAF Region and to review the progress made since the previous regional conference.
- Address the evolution of challenges of oil spill preparedness and response within the region.
- Facilitate the exchange of information, best practices and lessons learnt.
- Identify the priority actions to be implemented in the 2023-2024 biennial action plan in order to enhance preparedness for and response to oil spills in the region.
- Discuss the future evolution for the GI WACAF Project.
- Exchange ideas and suggestions about possible improvements to reinforce cooperation between Industry and Government.

## 4. Conference Programme

The conference was implemented over four days. The complete programme is set out in [Annex 1](#) and is summarised below:

### Monday 7 November - Highlights

- Registration
- Opening Ceremony
- Group picture
- Presentation of the GI WACAF Project
- Evolutions and perspectives in the region
- Spill compensation mechanisms overview
- 2022 Highlights by Focal Points
- GI WACAF Outlook on the next biennium

### Tuesday 8 November – National Preparedness

- Sharing Knowledge and experience
  - National Oil Spill Response systems in the region
  - Preparedness assessment methods and tools
  - WAKASHIO Case study
  - TRIO Large Scale Exercise
- Working groups
  - GI WACAF Areas of Improvement
  - RETOS Application and use

- Field activities: Spill Monitoring, Assessment, Health & Safety, Shoreline response

### Wednesday 9 November – Joint Engagement

- Sharing Knowledge and experience
  - Interface between Governments and Responsible Parties for response management
  - Providing incident assistance in the region
  - Stakeholder engagement during response
  - Drone survey
- Working groups
  - Joint engagement Government / Industry, operational communication
  - Ensuring Shared situational awareness
  - Claims, roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders
- Joint table top exercise, ITOPF

### Thursday 10 November - Next Biennium

- Plenary
- *For National delegates:* Face-to-face discussions between focal points and facilitators
- *For Industry delegates:* Working groups facilitated by GI WACAF Industry chairs
- Conference Highlights and Recommendations for the next biennium
- Closing ceremony

## 5. Participation

Some 120 industry and government representatives from the 22 GI WACAF partner countries attended the event, as well as representatives from regional and international organizations, complemented by an array of international experts. The full list of participations, international delegations, and speakers and facilitators that supported the various sessions is set out in [Annex 3](#).

### 5.1. International delegations, speakers and facilitators

The list of international delegates, speakers and facilitators is available in [Annex 3](#) of this Report.

## 6. Activities and proceedings

### 6.1. Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony took place at the beginning of the first day, Monday 7 November 2022. A press release was written by the media representatives present on this first day.

Mrs Esi Nerquaye-Tetteh (Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA), after welcoming every participant to Ghana, reminded all present of the shared responsibility of

governments and industries in the preparation for accidental oil spills, underlining the need for cooperation on the matter and, thus, the importance of the GI WACAF project in this regard. She shed light on the centrality and importance of National Oil Spill Contingency planning in order to achieve peak effectiveness in coordination and cooperation. He underlined that one of the main objectives of this conference was to help develop action plans in the region and create roadmaps in which the various national plans can be “tested, exercised, updated and improved”. The full speech, which can be found in [Annex 5](#), was closed with Mrs. Nerquaye-Tetteh’s encouragements for those present to participate actively to the conference discussions in order to render it fruitful and successful.

After recalling the purpose, structure and success of the GI WACAF Project, Capt. Dallas Laryea, IMO Regional Coordinator for West, mentioned the OPRC Convention as the most relevant convention regarding the GI WACAF Project. He also underlined how the marine and petroleum sectors constantly evolve, especially taking into account the introduction of Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oils (VLSFOs), the introduction of “alternative fuels” in the near future, which inevitably lead to evolution in the response requirements and approach. In the name of the IMO, Capt. Laryea delivered thanks to the Government of Ghana, in particular to the Ghanaian Maritime Authority for their support, as well as to IPIECA colleagues for their ongoing engagement in the project. After noting the presence of new faces in the GI WACAF team, Anaïs Guillou as Project Manager, and Rim Al Amir as Project Coordinator. The full speech is reproduced in [Annex 6](#).

Anatole Cramer, Industry Chair of the Steering Committee of the GI WACAF, explained the origins of the project and underscored the two key areas of consideration for the conference: national preparedness and joint engagement between governments and industry. His full speech can be found in [Annex 7](#) of this report.

Finally, the audience was addressed by the Honourable Cynthia Asare Bediako, Chief Director of the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) in Ghana, who’s speech is reproduced in [Annex 8](#). C. A. Bediako underlined the government’s support to the conference and its objectives, especially when taking into account the opportunity that petroleum represents to the African continent, but also the risks associated to it.

A group picture concluded the opening ceremony (Figure 2).



*Picture 2. Group picture of the conference delegates*

## 6.2. Conference Proceedings

The Regional Conference was scheduled for four days, with each day dedicated to a particular span of the GI WACAF Project: Highlights, National Preparedness, Joint Engagement, and a final focus on the next biennium.

### 6.2.1. Day 1: Highlights

The first day of the conference was dedicated to the review of the project, presented by National Focal Points from partner countries.



*Picture 3. Delegates during the first day of presentations*

### Session 1 - Anais Guillou, GI WACAF Project Manager, Presentation of the GI WACAF Project

As an introduction to the conference, Anais Guillou presented the background of the GI WACAF Project as well as an overview of the main outcomes and developments of the project since its launch in 2006. She recalled that the objective of the Global Initiative (of which the GI WACAF is a part) is to improve and enhance the capacity of beneficiary countries to prepare for and respond to accidental marine spills, but also to encourage partner countries to ratify IMO conventions.

These objectives are part of a wider ambition to promote cooperation between Government and Industry, in the spirit of the OPRC 90 Convention. In this regard, the GI WACAF objective is to enhance the capacity of states to prepare for and respond to oil spills, so they can better protect their marine and coastal environments. Ms. Guillou explained the three-axis approach adopted by the GI WACAF Project: working on (1) Legal Foundations, (2) Policies, processes and tools, and finally on (3) Assistance for implementation. She then mentioned the outcomes of the 2020-2022 period and the goals of this conference. After presenting key performance indicators of the project and its updated progress, Ms. Guillou presented the ways in which the project had adapted to the world pandemic, and how the year 2022 represents a transition year for the project, with the resumption of in-country activities with an almost entirely new team. To conclude an update and overview of the activities undertaken in 2022 was provided.

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### Session 2 - Evolutions and perspectives in the region

#### **1/ Terry Moore (Chevron), Evolution of the Oil and Gas Industry over the last 20 years**

Terry Moore, collated and presented data to show the ways in which the production of oil and gas in Africa has increased in recent years, with, for example, Nigeria and Angola producing more than 1MM/D in volume, and Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Ghana

with a production volume going from 100K/D to 1MM/D (HIS Markit data). He then turned the attention of the participants to what the future might look like, presenting the following graph representing Africa’s projected energy mix by 2050 and 2100 (Figure).

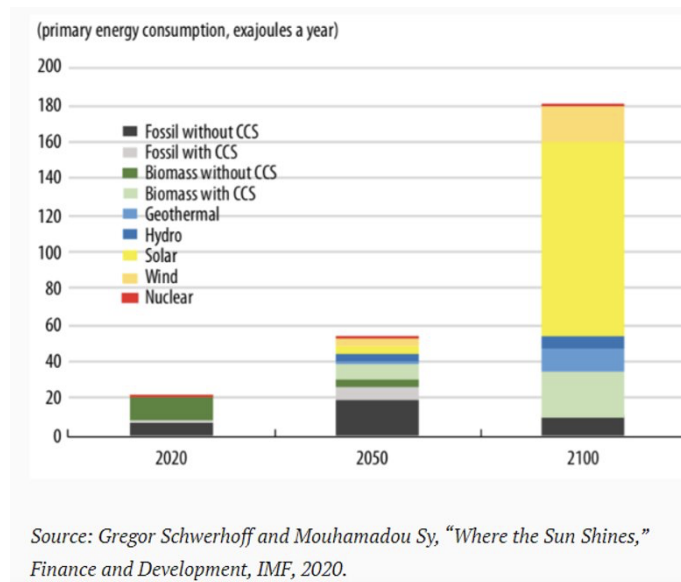


Figure 4. Africa’s energy mix, present and projected

The graph strongly suggests a diversification of Africa’s energy mix with a clear transition to renewable energy (solar, wind).

## 2/ Numbu Issahaque Sumabe (Ghana Maritime Authority, GMA), Evolution of the Shipping Industry

Mr. Numbu Issahaque Sumabe delivered a presentation about the changing dynamics of the shipping industry by offering an overview of the global maritime trade, before focussing on the evolution of the shipping industry in West Africa, specifically mentioning its great economic and trade potential.

There is still, however, a need for investment in the maritime sector of the region which has not been met. Currently, there is a great increase in vessel traffic due to oil and gas exploration activities in the region, even though import traffic continues to grow at the expense of export traffic in most countries of the region.

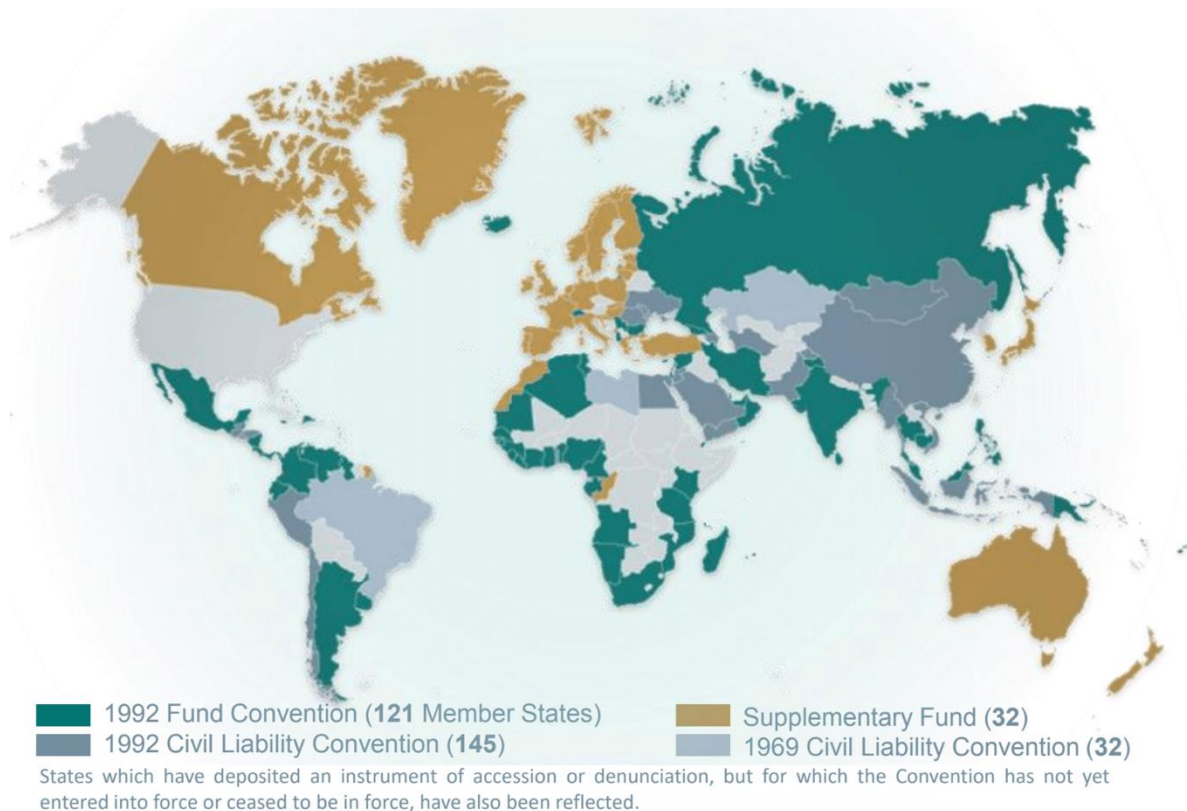
N.I. Sumabe then addressed the new risks and challenges the shipping industry is facing today and in what is expected in the near future, mentioning the impacts of COVID-19, piracy, and new regulations on emissions and marine environment protection (2020 IMO Sulphur Cap, attempts towards decarbonisation, as well as initiatives of major shipping nations and shipping companies towards green shipping). As a member of the Ghanaian Maritime Authority, N.I. Sumabe then mentioned Ghana’s approach to those changing dynamics – through the creation of the GMA, established to regulate, monitor and coordinate activities in the maritime industry of Ghana. The GMA’s mission is to “ensure the provision of safe, secure and efficient shipping services and the protection of the marine environment from ship source pollution”, by collaborating with GPHA, EPA and other stakeholders in the maritime



industry. Ghana adapted to the changing dynamics of the maritime sector by ratifying and adopting the relevant international conventions, enforcement actions on pollution, actions on maritime security, and the development of a multimodal transport system to facilitate regional trade, amongst other initiatives.

### Session 3: Gaute Sivertsen (IOPC Funds), Spill Compensation mechanisms overview

Mr. Gaute Sivertsen, Director, IOPC Funds, addressed one of the main objectives of the event relating to the challenges of oil spill preparedness and response in the region by providing an overview of the international liability and compensation regime for oil pollution damage.



*Figure 5. Member states and ratified conventions*

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### Session 4: 2022 Highlights

#### **1/ Support for the effective implementation of IMO Conventions, Idris Musa, NOSDRA, Nigeria**

This presentation detailed the outcomes of the GI WACAF remote virtual workshops held on 23 September 2020 and 10 November 2020. Through this workshop, the GI WACAF: (1) supported relevant Nigerian agencies on the implementation of principles and legal

implications of relevant IMO instruments including OPRC 90, International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage 1992 (CLC 1992), International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (FUND 1992) and the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (BUNKERS 2001), and (2) offered guidance on legislative mechanisms for developing and updating national law.

IMO conventions are implemented through national legislation assigning roles and responsibilities to both the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) and NIMASA, noting that the international conventions do not override national statutes. The Memorandum of Understanding between NOSDRA and the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), which was agreed in 2019 following the IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) carried out in 2016, should be revised to better reflect the IMO requirements, based on perceived overlap in responsibilities between the two Agencies, and other issues raised during the remote workshop. The standing Committee on the implementation of IOPC Funds continued its engagements – meetings, sensitization workshops for contributing oil receivers, as well as those impacted by pollution. NOSDRA and NIMASA's intend to further develop legal framework for the administration of oil pollution compensation fund.

## **2/ National Plan Development, Anaïs Guillou and Lindsay Page-Jones on behalf of Mr Octavio Cabral, Ministry of Environment and Biodiversity of Guinea Bissau (MAB), 12-16 September 2022**

As part of the development and implementation of its national spill management system, Guinea Bissau, through its GI WACAF Focal Point, and Mr. D. Marico (PRCM: Regional Partnership for Coastal and Marine Conservation), requested GI WACAF's support to help it ratify the relevant international conventions, develop its National Spill Contingency Plan (NSCP), its National Dispersant Use Policy and Sensitivity Maps, and to implement its national spill management system.

In order to carry out this technical assistance, the GIWACAF project engaged a consultant to participate in the development of the National Contingency Plan for the Republic of Guinea Bissau.

The objectives of the workshop were to 1) present and outline the development process and key content of the NSCP to the national authorities and stakeholders and 2) to initiate the development of the NSCP with the technical work group. <sup>{L}</sup><sub>{SEP}</sub>

## **3/ Support to acquire and organize response resources, Matchonnawe Bakai, Environment Director of Togo, August 2022**

In 2022, Togo benefited from funding through the World Bank-led WACA project to purchase oil spill response equipment.<sup>{L}</sup><sub>{SEP}</sub> Consequently, Togo requested support from the GI WACAF Project to develop its strategy for the procurement.<sup>{L}</sup><sub>{SEP}</sub> Following a request made by the Togo GI WACAF Focal Point, a technical cooperation activity was agreed with the following steps:



- Initial assessment on current operational capability and oil spill risk for Togo, including possible transboundary oil spills,
- Definition of needs in terms of oil spill response equipment (to maintain in country) to be able to mitigate the impacts of small spills and initiate response to larger spills, <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Development of a subsequent strategic policy regarding equipment and its storage, human resource requirements and technical expertise in line with the spill hazards and ranges of environmental operating conditions.
- Provision of training programs and cost estimates for the maintenance of equipment and operational needs,
- Support the drafting of the technical aspects of the Terms of Reference to be used as part of a public tender process to procure process of oil spill response equipment; and
- Identification of possible changes required in the national preparedness and response plan, or NOSCP (referred to as “Plan POLMAR”).” based on the assessment and procurement of this oil spill response equipment.

This technical assistance activity was carried in 3 phases:

#### **Phase 1: Preparatory study detailing**

- The Togolese shoreline characteristics and priority sites to protect against oil pollution,
- An initial assessment of oil spill risks,
- The analysis of the national preparedness and response plan,
- The evaluation of national and private stocks of oil spill equipment, oil spill response team and logistic means needed,
- The proposal of a first list of oil spill response equipment following the need and the location of the response.

This preparatory study allowed to define the framework of the in-country mission, the sites to visit, the responsible to meet etc.

#### **Phase 2: Carrying out an in-country mission**

During this mission, the consultants executed the following tasks:

- Visit priority shoreline areas and proposed specific strategic protection plans and equipment where needed.
- Visit the largest oil storage capacities located along the shoreline including Port capacities (Lomé, Kpémé and new fishing port),
- Evaluate national and private oil spill stocks of equipment, logistics supports and preparedness of response team, <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Liaise with national authorities to integrate their response organization and define the roles and responsibilities of members. <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Clarify with national authorities the oil spill equipment needs and their future management (eg, who will be the owner? Who will be in charge of storage and maintenance? How will authorization be given for mobilization and deployment?). <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

- Define, with the national authorities, training and exercise programs to implement, in order to reinforce the preparedness of the different response teams. [SEP]
- Propose revisions to the NOSCP in accordance with the mission and project. [SEP]

### Phase 3: Consolidation of the final report

The final version of the report prepared, integrating the different information and clarifications provided by the various stakeholders during the mission. [SEP]

#### 4/ Joint Government / Industry National Incident Management System (IMS 300), Pinehas Auene in the name of Shapua Kalomo, Directorate of Maritime Affairs (DMA), Namibia, 19-23 July 2021

A national training on the Incident Management System (IMS) was organized for Remote Online Delivery from 20 to 22 July 2021, as a four-day IMS Level 300 online course (IMS 300). The course concluded by incorporating a one-day exercise facilitated by Shell and TotalEnergies. The training and exercise gathered the key stakeholders identified in the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan from different government ministries, agencies and authorities, as well as Non-Governmental Organisations and Industry.

The implementation of an IMS creates a standardized method to efficiently manage incidents or events. The general objective of the training was to understand the management process and to develop an Incident Action Plan using the IMS for a major escalating oil spill incident.

The specific objectives of the workshop focused on: [SEP]

1. How the Incident Command and General Staff component supports the management of expanding incidents. [SEP]
2. The incident management process for expanding incidents as prescribed by IMS

The objectives of this IMS-300 course were to:

- Understand Industry Oil Spill Contingency Plans (OSCP's) with reference to IMS, and in accordance with Namibia's NOSCP – become familiar with roles, responsibilities, and [SEP] communication links. [SEP]
- Describe the incident management process for managers/supervisors. [SEP]
- Implement the incident management process during a simulated incident to embed learning, familiarise roles and foster collaboration. [SEP]
- Expose stakeholders to the key issues related to oil spill incidents. [SEP]

#### 5/ Large Scale exercise, D. Ravi Naicker, South Africa Maritime Safety Agency (SAMSA), South Africa, 9 to 13 May 2022

Capt. Ravi Naicker, project manager for the training and exercise that was funded by the Benguela Current Convention (BCC), presented on the undertaking of IMS training and a Joint Industry-Government Marine Oil Spill Response Deployment Exercise in Cape Town in May 2022. Similar to the above, the aims of the IMS Training were to:

- a. Introduce the core features and principles of IMS.
- b. Relate these to marine offshore oil spill incidents.

The specific objectives of the exercise included the following:

- a. Test the country's response capabilities to a marine oil spill incident from a vessel at sea.
- b. Verify the Incident Command and all other functions' competency and capability to respond, activate and effectively manage the scenario.
- c. Test the alert and escalation procedures as identified in the NOSCP.
- d. Test the establishment of the Incident Management Structure as per the NOSCP and the use of the IMS-Manual and Handbook.
- e. Test the inter co-operational ability of relevant government departments (national and targeted local authorities) with participation from industry as per the NOSCP
- f. Include an element of waste management as well as wildlife recovery and transfer to a rehabilitation facility.
- g. Test the availability and activation of response assets for effective deployment.

The scenario involved a collision between a container ship and a tanker in the shipping lane leading to the entrance to Cape Town harbor.

The scenario was developed to trigger the following response elements:

- Salvage
- Search and Rescue
- Firefighting
- Oil spill response (offshore and shoreline)
- Oiled wildlife response

The event was a success with good cooperation between the team of consultants contracted for the preparation and delivery of the training and exercise and the Interim Incident Management Organisation Steering Committee. Feedback from participants collected during the debriefing sessions at the end of the exercise was positive and stated that significant improvements have been observed compared to previous events in terms of the quality of the teaching. The overall facilitation of the training and exercise and the involvement of the national and local authorities as well as the maritime community. It is strongly felt by all involved in the full event that the IMS provides the solid foundation for the management to the response to marine emergencies, and that it should be implemented across organisations involved in the response.

## **6/ Benguela Current Commission, Introductory Remarks, Xolela Wellem (BCC)**

The Benguela Current Convention (BCC) has established an Oil Spill Contingency task team in 2019. The tasks of this task team include:

- Develop mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of relevant international and regional treaties related to oil spill preparedness and response,

- Promote mutual assistance and coordination in responding to oil spill incidents that may affect one or more Parties,
- Strengthen capacity and capability of the Parties including regular joint training courses or joint exercises to improve the level of preparedness, cooperation, and coordination,
- Promote the sharing of knowledge, data, and information on the scientific and technical aspects of oil spill preparedness and response including harmonized reporting arrangements, etc.

Since its establishment the task team has continued to convene its annual meetings and implemented its work program, which included facilitation of an Oil Spill Risk Assessment conducted in the region. The BCC Secretariat continues to support its Parties on efforts to prevent, abate, minimize marine pollution, including domestication of laws, strengthening capacity and research, amongst others.

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#### **Session 5: GI WACAF Outlook on next Biennium**

Anaïs Guillou, GI WACAF Project Manager

To conclude the first day of the conference, Anaïs Guillou presented the ambitions for the project in the coming years, with a new team and the possibility of reinitiating in-country activities and workshops. In that sense, the GI WACAF Project is now ready to ensure that the foundations are in place and updated, that these foundations take into consideration changes and evolutions: in governments organisations, new risks and challenges, especially considering the evolutions of the industry.

She then explained the structure of the conference and the technical points to remember in order to make this conference as productive as possible for every participant.

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#### **Session 6: Women in Maritime of Central and West Africa (WIMOWCA)**

Sylvia Asana Dauda Owu, WIMOWCA President

The day ended with the reception organized by GI WACAF Project, during which the WIMOWCA Association made an intervention about the importance of women in the maritime sector in Central and Western Africa, which can be found in [Annex 9](#).

### 6.2.2. Day 2: National Preparedness

#### **Session 7: Sharing knowledge and experience**

**1/ Key components for national spill response systems in the region,  
Natalie Monvoisin, Cedre**

Mrs. Natalie Monvoisin briefly presented the international regulatory framework for:

- Prevention, including the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL);
- Preparedness and response with a focus on the 1990 OPRC Convention;
- And finally, on reparation, redress and compensation, mentioning mainly the CLC Convention, the Supplementary Fund and the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage (Bunker Convention).

To close this section dedicated to regulatory frameworks, Ms. Natalie Monvoisin emphasized that parties were required to first ratify, then transpose these international conventions into their national system in order to enforce them within their territory. This transposition process involves, in particular: preparing the necessary legislation, ideally before the ratification of the convention, involving stakeholders in the process, identifying an appropriate national tool and designating regulators implement the transposition. After a brief introduction to the concept of response levels/tiers, Ms. Natalie Monvoisin, highlighted the importance of having an operational emergency plan that is known, understood, adaptable to ensure an efficient and operational national response system.

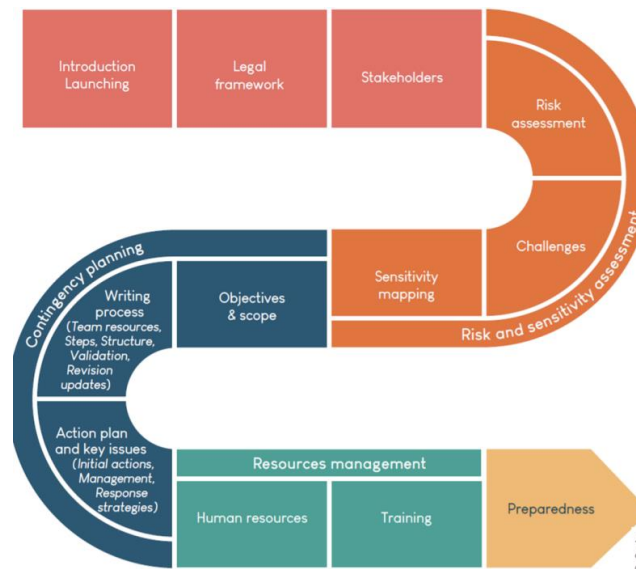


Figure 6. Steps towards Preparedness

Basing her remarks on the methodology for developing these plans, Ms. Natalie Monvoisin was able to highlight the essential features of:

- The identification of stakeholders, their roles, and responsibilities;
- Good knowledge of ecological, geomorphological and socio-economic sensitivities;
- The identification of potential sources (activities and infrastructure) of pollution and different types of pollutants and more particularly their characteristics and behaviours once discharged into the environment.

The importance of organization was highlighted, noting the need for an integrated structure to manage the response, comprising key functions such as command operations, planning and logistical, administrative and financial aspects. In addition, reference was made to the

need to establish clear reporting relationships, to plan for and maintain a modular and evolving organization.

The main chapters and appendices to be included in the plan were then quickly presented, highlighting the key issues. Ms. Natalie Monvoisin concluded by recalling the indispensable role of the management on both human and material resources, highlighting (as many countries had done during the presentations of the previous day), the essential nature of implementing training, exercises and tests of different types and differing frequency.

## **2/ Spill preparedness assessment methods and tools**

### **Peter Taylor, Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (OSPRI)**

Measuring oil spill preparedness is an important part of developing and sustaining contingency plans, including at the national level. This allows areas for improvement to be identified and prioritized. The Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS) has gained significant international support since its initial development in 2009 and has recently undergone update and transfer to a web-based platform, with financial contributions and technical assistance from both IMO and Ipieca. Work Groups sessions following the presentation allowed a more detailed overview and demonstration of RETOS. Fundamentally, RETOS poses a series of questions covering all aspects of preparedness, which user(s) answers with 'missing', 'partial' or 'complete' with added comments as appropriate. On completion, the Tool auto-generates an overview of the evaluation and a detailed improvement programme, with suggested references to help address areas for improvement. There are three levels of detail available to the user, encouraging continuous improvement. RETOS poses different questions for government and industry depending on the facility, organization or operation that is being assessed. RETOS is freely available and was recommended for consideration as a tool for national reviews in the WACAF region. It is available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

## **3/ WAKASHIO, focus on Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) and mangroves, Case Study, Franck Laruelle, ITOPF**

Following the grounding of the bulk carrier WAKASHIO on the south-east coast of Mauritius in July 2020, and the resulting oil pollution, pumping and sea-based and land-based response operations, as well as the removal of the wreck were undertaken under the aegis of the Japan P&I Club, the ship's insurer.

Pumping operations in the fuel tanks limited the spill to approximately 1,000 m<sup>3</sup>, noting the 4,000 m<sup>3</sup> on board. Clean-up operations, initially carried out by teams of volunteers, were quickly undertaken by two private pollution response companies, Polyeco and Le Floch Dépollution, commissioned by the insurer.

The physio-chemical characteristics of the spilled fuel oil with a very low Sulphur content and its strong tendency to percolate meant that large-scale low-pressure flushing operations had to be carried out over the entire affected area, particularly in the mangroves.

After five months, the clean-up operations were ended in January 2021, while the wreck removal operations continued until February 2022.

#### 4/ Large Scale Exercise TRIO, Calum Goodes, BP

A large-scale Exercise “TRIO”, was organised by BP in Senegal in November 2021. The primary objective of Exercise TRIO was to introduce the concept of a single IMT that operates under a Unified Command featuring representatives from BP, Mauritania (Admiral of the Mauritanian Navy) and Senegal (Deputy Secretary General of HASSMAR). The exercise tested both an expanded BP Incident Management Team (IMT) and the regulators of Mauritania and Senegal, involving 30 agency representatives, including the Mauritanian Navy and Senegalese Authority HASSMAR.

The exercise yielded numerous proposals for how industry and regulators in Mauritania and Senegal may improve response efficiency and further drive forward cooperative response efforts.

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#### Session 8: Work Groups

The primary objectives of these work group sessions were to enable a productive exchange between the GI WACAF facilitators and the participants (national delegates and industry members). In this regard, four groups were established, in order to work as smaller teams – which included both national and industry representatives, as well as external partners, to maximize the productivity and the outcome of the work groups. Work groups took place in the mornings of day 2 and day 3.

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#### WORK GROUP 1: GI WACAF Areas of Improvement

**French-speaking facilitator:** Anatole Cramer (TE) and Natalie Monvoisin (Cedre)

**English-speaking facilitator:** Andrew Tucker (bp) and Will Griffiths (IMO)

This group focused on possible areas of improvement for the GI WACAF Project overall and for the next biennium.

Discussion focussed on recommendations and proposals for evolution applicable to the overall management of the GI WACAF project at a regional or sub-regional levels, as well as the support provided to countries and implementation of activities.

The outcomes of this work group can be found in [Annex 13](#).

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#### WORK GROUP 2: RETOS Application and Use

**French-speaking facilitator:** Anne Reglain (ODC)

**English-speaking facilitator:** Peter Taylor (OSPRI)



This work group was dedicated to the implementation of the RETOS in the different countries of the region, for a comprehensive assessment of the level of preparedness of the countries in the region and fine-tune priority topics for the improvement of preparedness.

Some of the outcomes of these discussions can be found in [Annex 13](#).

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### **Session 9: Spill Monitoring, Assessment, Health and Safety, Shoreline Response**

The afternoon of the second day was new addition to the GI WACAF Regional Conference, which included 5 technical demonstrations allowing participants to directly interact with tools and methods used in the case of an oil spill. The demonstrations were divided as follows:

**(1) Drifting buoys, monitoring of air quality and drift modelling:** This demonstration showed different types of drifting buoys, and the type of data produced to track oil on water offshore and demonstrated air quality monitoring tools to measure air quality (including CO, O<sub>2</sub>, Volatil Organic Compounds and Lower Explosive Limits), demonstrated the use of freely available tools & data for drift modelling, and finally explained the use of freely available tools & data for the modelling of spilled oil behaviour.

**(2) Oiled Shoreline Survey:** this session revisited the objectives & principles of oiled shoreline survey and demonstrated tools for oiled shoreline survey on site, including key information to consider, and available tools, methods and forms.

**(3) Oil types, sampling and chemical dispersion:** this technical demonstration showed different groups of oil, different oil sampling techniques, as well as oil chemical dispersion.

**(4) Protection of personnel and use of sorbents:** this demonstration highlighted PPE (Protection of Personnel Equipment) needs according to different types of spill response and showed methods of decontamination of personnel after a beach clean-up. In addition, the correct use of different types of absorbents and adsorbent materials was demonstrated.

**(5) Sandy shoreline cleanup:** this session demonstrated good practice for the layout a beach clean-up site, organising circulation and pathways, demonstrating simple techniques and tools for the manual recovery of oil.

The objectives of these workshops were:

- for participants to engage and discuss in mixed groups (country–industry-partners).
- to refresh on methods and objectives for health & safety, monitoring, oiled shoreline survey and clean-up and to demonstrate that shore response often relies more on well-managed operations, personnel and simple equipment (often locally available) rather than heavy/ specialised equipment.
- to foster discussions about current good practices in countries, and areas for improvement, and to identify areas of potential support from GI WACAF (e.g. for regional guidelines, sub-regional activities etc.)

Overall, those demonstrations were very well-received by the participants.



1. Drifting Buoys, air quality demonstration



2. Oiled Shoreline survey



3. Oil types, sampling and chemical dispersion demonstration



4. Protection of personnel and use of sorbents



5. Sandy shoreline cleanup demonstration



### 6.2.3. Day 3: Joint Engagement between Government and Industry

The third day was dedicated to sharing experience around joint engagement between Governments and Industries

#### Session 10: Sharing knowledge and experience

#### **1/ Interface between Governments and Responsible Parties for response management, Anatole Cramer, TotalEnergies**

Anatole Cramer presented on the interface between governments and responsible parties for response management by tackling the following subjects: planning in oil spill response and third-party engagements; regulatory framework; evaluation of the scenarios and of their consequences; defining response strategies and resources; organisation; exercises and trainings.

The interface between Industry and Government are an essential prerequisite for all stages of pollution response preparation. This cooperation is key to effective incident management. The role of governments during a crisis is essential, for example for: customs, police, relations with the populations, waste management, transport, mobilization of large logistical resources, etc.

Stakeholder engagement considerations and process are presented in Figure:

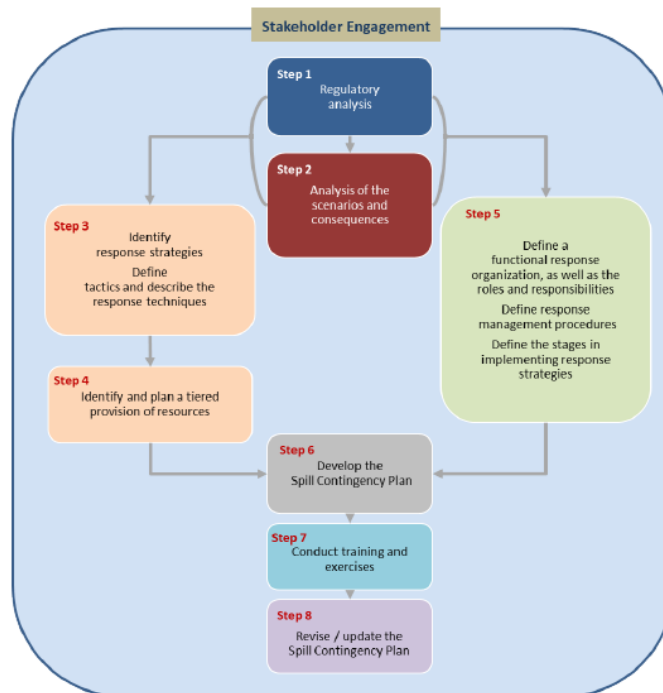


Figure 7. Stakeholder Engagement process and steps

Regulatory framework includes legal framework (international and regional conventions, national regulations, etc.), industry references (HSE charter, oil spill contingency plans, etc.) and international good practices (IMO guidelines, IPIECA GPGs, IOPC, ITOPF, etc.).

Mr Cramer then mentioned the NEBA process, which requires the commitment of national authorities before, during and after the spill, in order to:

- define pre-approved response strategies to respond to a spill as quickly and effectively as possible
- allow these strategies to be validated and adjusted as conditions evolve during a spill
- support the definition of response end points by continuing to assess data gathered through ongoing monitoring of response effectiveness and evolving conditions.

The importance of good organisation through the IMS was emphasized. Key organizational principles of the IMS are:

- the use of a single, integrated organization structure to manage the response.
- organization by function, i.e.: command, operation, planning, logistics and finance.
- establishment of clear reporting relationships.
- maintaining a modular and scalable organization and ensuring that it is appropriately scaled to achieve the response objectives.

## 2/ Providing incident assistance in the region, Andrew Nicoll, OSRL

Mr Nicoll presented the OPRC Convention and its main articles, concerning, amongst other important subjects, the necessity of a NOSCP, reporting procedures, response framework, international, multilateral or bilateral cooperation in pollution response, etc.

To better define response capability, Mr Nicoll detailed the Tiered Preparedness and Response planning approach, which is used to define and structure levels of response capabilities, to plan for appropriate resources to be mobilised, and enable resource escalation for an oil spill of any magnitude or complexity. The tiers represent the various levels of resource capacity required to respond to a specific risk location, and are not quantitative measurements of capacity.

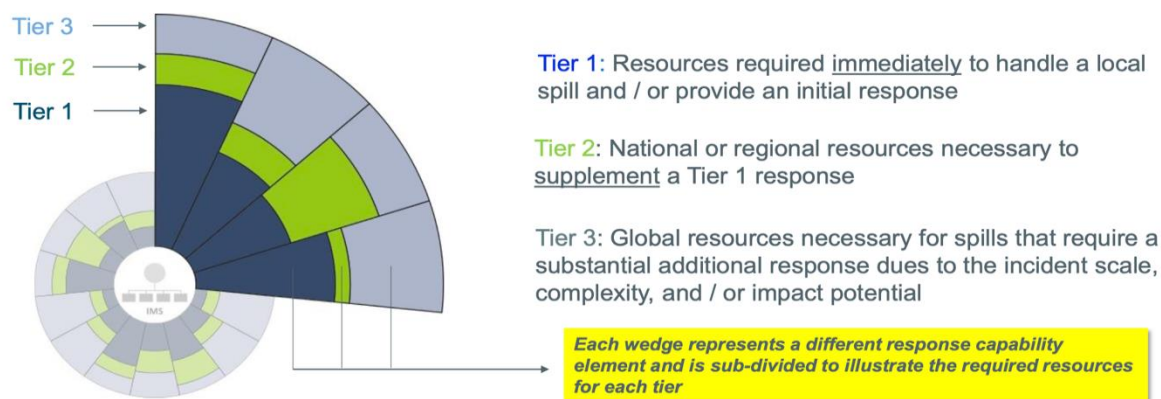


Figure 8. Tiered response as conceived by IPIECA

The West Africa Surveillance Platform (WASP), a dedicated Oil Spill Surveillance service for West and Central Africa by OSRL was presented. This service gives access to aerial surveillance for the region for those who are subscribed

Operational realities and common challenges faced (problems with custom and immigration, waste management, language barriers, difficulties in workforce management, etc.) were

introduced and the importance of exploring and developing ways to overcome these potential challenges, before an oil spill takes place were highlighted.

### **3/ Stakeholder engagement during response, Andrew Tucker, BP**

Mr Tucker highlighted that government authorities and industries should engage in order to understand the issues and impacts, bring together expertise and resources, develop the response strategy collaboratively, implement the response effectively, continually review and assess the response, etc. The initial stage – understanding the situation – is more effective when situational awareness information is shared, and when the impacts (economic, social, environmental) are understood by every stakeholder. The development of an effective response strategy should go through agreeing on priorities together, since the most effective response strategy is when it is jointly agreed. An effective response consists of logistical, technical, scientific aspects, and demands a regular review of priorities and actions in the short- and long-term.

The benefits of regular joint engagement are the following:

- It helps to clarify the most appropriate level of engagement and the most appropriate ways to engage
- It helps to know when to engage and at what frequency, prior to the incident
- Pre-identification of resources and likely response options
- Familiarisation with each other's plans.

Indeed, joint engagement is most effective when it occurs prior to any incident.

Finally, it was underscored that the use of contingency plans as a framework for joint engagement is the most effective means to ensure success.

### **4/ Drone Survey, Manuel Pungo, Total E&P Angola**

Mr. Manuel Pungo presented on aerial survey using drones, and their role during offshore and onshore oil spill response operations. The drones vary in their usage, capacity and complexity, and thus the costs will vary depending on the drone.

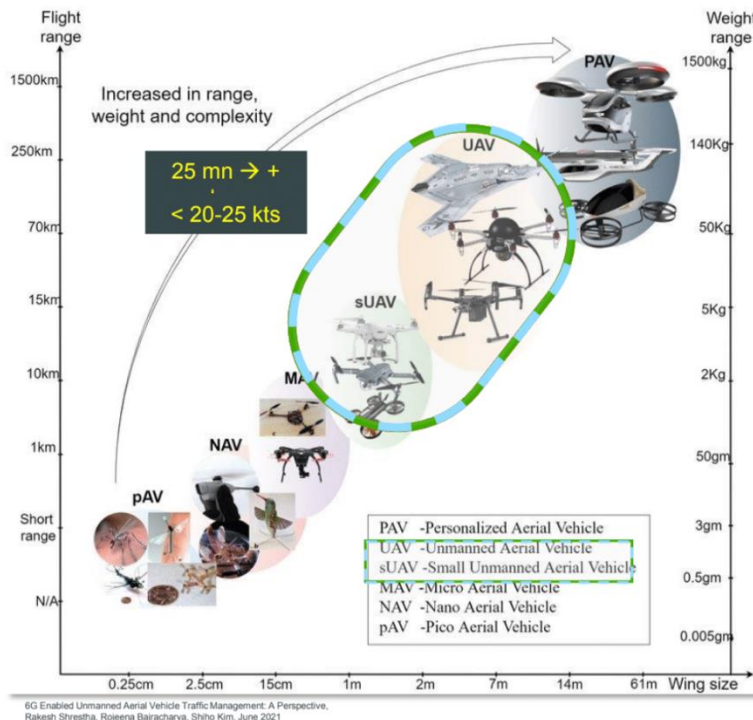


Figure 9. Different types of drones, depending on their weight, flight range and wing size

For offshore response, the use of drones can bring quality guidance and survey of the operations (24h/day), as well as feed into the Response Efficiency Assessment. They can also evaluate safety by measuring air quality through air monitoring. Drones also allow for situation assessments (in command posts).

For onshore response, drones can be useful for surveying (re-shoreline cleanup assessment technique (SCAT)/oiled wildlife) in zones which are difficult to access. As is the case for offshore operations, drones can evaluate air quality and can help in the Response Efficiency Assessment during onshore operations.

Drones therefore represent valuable tools for both governments and industries.

### Session 11: Work groups

The primary objectives of these work group sessions were to enable a productive exchange between the GI WACAF facilitators and the participants (national delegates and industry members). Four groups were established, which included both national delegates and industry representatives, as well as external partners, to maximize the productivity and the outcome of the work groups.

#### **WORK GROUP 1:** Joint Government-Industry Operational Communication

**French-speaking facilitator:** Abdoul Tanor Diaw, National Maritime Affairs Agency, Senegal

**English-speaking facilitator:** Ross Zaccarini (BP) and Andrew Tucker (BP)



These groups were dedicated to discussions with national delegates and industry representatives about communication between Government and Industry (or other responsible party) to coordinate the overall response during a spill. Consequently, the focus of this work group was “operational joint communications”, rather than public communications or crisis communication for media or social networks.

#### **WORK GROUP 2: Ensuring Shared Situational Awareness**

**French-speaking facilitator:** Franck Laruelle (ITOPF) and Natalie Monvoisin (Cedre)

**English-speaking facilitator:** Tania Augusto (ExxonMobil) and Duarte Soares (ITOPF)

These groups were dedicated to discussions about Shared Situational Awareness (SSA) and its importance for effective spill response management and decision-making. Discussions focussed on clarifying the concept (introduced in the session “Incident and response information”), identifying current challenges and good practices, and making recommendations applicable to countries.

Details regarding the outcomes of this group can be found in [Annex 13](#).

#### **Session 12: Claims: Roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders, Mark Homan, IOPCF**

This session covered the key conventions related to liability and compensation applicable in the West Central and Southern African States, in the event of an oil spill, and the status of ratification those States. He emphasized the role and responsibilities of each stakeholder involved in response operations and the importance of collaboration between parties involved, together with the methods and documentation required in order to successfully file claim and obtain compensation following an incident. Reference was made to the criteria within the IOPCF Claims Manual.

#### **Session 13: Joint Table-top Exercise**

Based on ITOPF board game, managed by ITOPF.

The objective of the game was to present participants with a crisis scenario, based on a maritime accident, and to ask them to elaborate response strategies according to the evolving circumstances, with the main objectives being:

- (1) the establishment of an incident team with clearly defined roles
- (2) an assessment of the risks and sensitivities, based on the information provided,
- (3) the development of a response strategy and its virtual implementation (including the mobilisation of aerial observation capabilities in VR), and
- (4) the preparation of a claim consistent with the response resources deployed virtually during the exercise.

The exercise was very well received by the participants.

#### 6.2.4. Day 4: Next Biennium

In order to discuss priorities and establish the GI WACAF programme of work for the next biennium, the conference was split into two groups: national authorities and petroleum industry organizations.

This allocated time to exchange views between GI WACAF facilitators and national delegates, as well as Industry representatives, is a core feature of GI WACAF Regional Conferences. Based on the outcomes of these discussions, the GI WACAF Project establishes its project plan and priorities for the following biennium, taking into consideration the national specificities and requests and requirements expressed at the conference.

##### **National authorities**

A facilitated discussion was carried out with the national delegates to discuss their respective in-country situation and perspectives, with a view to:

- review the updated information of the Country Profiles
- review the context for spill preparedness & response in country, discuss the priorities for improvement, as well as actions planned or undertaken by the country and support that may be required from the GI WACAF

##### **Petroleum industry representatives**

In parallel, petroleum industry representatives gathered to discuss the role of industry in the GI WACAF Project.

Groups were established to discuss common challenges encountered by the O&G industry in the region, share good practices and successful initiatives, and to propose possible recommendations or ways forward (for governments, O&G industry, GI WACAF and other stakeholders). The discussion was to focus on recommendations applicable at a regional or sub-regional level. The summarised outcomes of this group discussion can be found in [Annex 12](#).

Taking this time to exchange views between GI WACAF facilitators and National delegates, as well as Industry representatives, is the core nature of GI WACAF Regional Conferences. With the outcomes of these discussions, the GI WACAF Project will establish a thorough planning for the upcoming biennium, taking into consideration the national specificities and demands expressed at the conference.

#### 6.3. Closing Ceremony

For the conference closing, Mr Will Griffiths, representing the IMO, emphasised on the collective success highlighted by the regional conference – success which is due to the continuous engagement from national delegates and industry, as well as our Ipieca partner. Will Griffiths addressed his thanks to the GI WACAF Team members and steering committee, Anatole Cramer (Industry Chair), to the experts and finally to the Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana for their support. After reminding the participants that being

prepared is a long-term effort, he reiterated the ongoing commitment of the IMO to the project and the support to the efforts made from all parts. The full speech can be found in [Annex 10](#)

Representing Ipieca, Anatole Cramer underlined the success of the conference, in the in-depth discussions and communications on the four major topics which were the highlights of the last biennium, national preparedness, joint engagement between governments and industries and the outlook on the next biennium. The speech was reproduced in [Annex 11](#).

Mr, Kojo Agbenor-Efunam, in closing the conference, noted the enhanced networking and the valuable space given for new ideas to emerge, notably the evolution of the GI WACAF Project into a partnership, the use of online tools, the emphasis placed on ensuring the necessary visibility of the GI WACAF Activities. Additionally, experience and information sharing, as well as the developments of national plans, were mentioned as some of the highlights of the conference. On behalf of the Government of Ghana, Mr Agbenor-Efunam addressed sincere thanks to all participants and stakeholders which took part in the organisation of this Conference. He then declared the conference officially closed. The speech can be found in [Annex 12](#).

## 7. Recommendations

Based on the work carried out in the working groups on days 2 and 3, recommendations covering the following thematic areas are summarized below.

- 1/ GI WACAF: Areas of improvement
- 2/ RETOS: Applications and use
- 3/ Joint Government-Industry Operational Communication
- 4/ Ensuring Situational Awareness

Amongst the different groups, a common desire was expressed for in-country capacity building and training of local experts. Most countries in the region are facing common challenges in terms of oil spill preparedness and response, with a strong desire to develop local expertise.

Following the “three-step approach” developed by the GI WACAF Project providing the rationale for an efficient preparedness and response system, the overall recommendations were grouped under three main headings: legislation and regulatory framework; policies and processes; and support for implementation, as presented below.



### ***Step 1: Legislation and regulatory framework***

Establishing a legislative and regulatory framework is the foundation for an effective national preparedness and response system (i.e. ratification/ transposition of conventions, update of national laws/ decrees, review of national institutional framework, regional/transboundary agreements, etc.). In this connection, the conference recommended the following:

1. Reinforce the legislative assistance dimension of GI WACAF to assist countries in the transposition, domestication and full implementation of relevant IMO Conventions which they have ratified. This was recognised as an important obstacle faced by numerous State parties in the region; and
2. Assist in the development of bi-lateral and sub-regional oil spill preparedness and response agreements and plans.

### ***Step 2: Policies and processes***

Establishing the appropriate policies, processes and tools to implement the legislative framework (e.g National Contingency Plan, dispersant use policy, waste management policy, shoreline clean-up plans, maps, incident management system etc.), are all key components of an effective national system

The conference encouraged the establishment of operational systems, and resources, for incident management and spill response, in line with the national policies and legislative framework. Recommendations under this pillar included:

1. Continue to provide assistance for the development, update and implementation of National Oil Spill Contingency Plans (NOSCPs), as the cornerstone of oil spill preparedness and response systems
2. Provide assistance in the development of standard operating procedures
3. Extend scopes of work: take into account shoreline and inland spills as well as offshore spills, and adapt to industry technical evolutions (HNS / hydrocarbons / new fuels). GI WACAF should focus on this key dimension of the oil spill preparedness and response system, which proved challenging to develop and implement, particularly when inland response, shoreline response and at-sea response fall under the responsibilities of different entities.

### ***Step 3: Assistance for Implementation***

The conference recognized the ongoing support and assistance that is required by countries to develop the necessary capacity and knowledge to ensure effective national response systems. Amongst the tools discussed during the conference, three were considered as of immediate interest and importance:

1. RETOS is a useful tool and process to evaluate preparedness and response capacities (whether from industry or government), however noted the need for more training on the RETOS tool and in facilitating a RETOS assessment. Some delegates felt that for the tool to be successful, there needed to be a designated party which ensures its proper application.
2. The idea of developing a tool similar to RETOS that would guide users through the development of OSCPs was raised. The objective of such a tool would be to enable

industry and governments to develop their own plans without the need to hire external/international advisors.

3. Benefit from support for the identification of funding sources and from advice for the purchase of equipment
4. Develop a compendium of local/regional experts to expand the network. It is important that the project highlights the expertise available within the region, whether from industry or government (not only those employed by GI WACAF as consultants, but also the direct engagement of partners)
5. The creation of a forum for the publication of activities, allowing questions to be shared and dialogue to be initiated between stakeholders was proposed.

### ***Transboundary cooperation***

Encouraging transboundary cooperation and the development of procedures to facilitate international assistance. In this context, the conference identified the following areas of interest and further development:

1. more regional/sub-regional activities
2. more transboundary exercises
3. Support a feasibility study for the establishment of regional response centres.
4. explore the possibility of a surveillance system for oil spill detection in the region

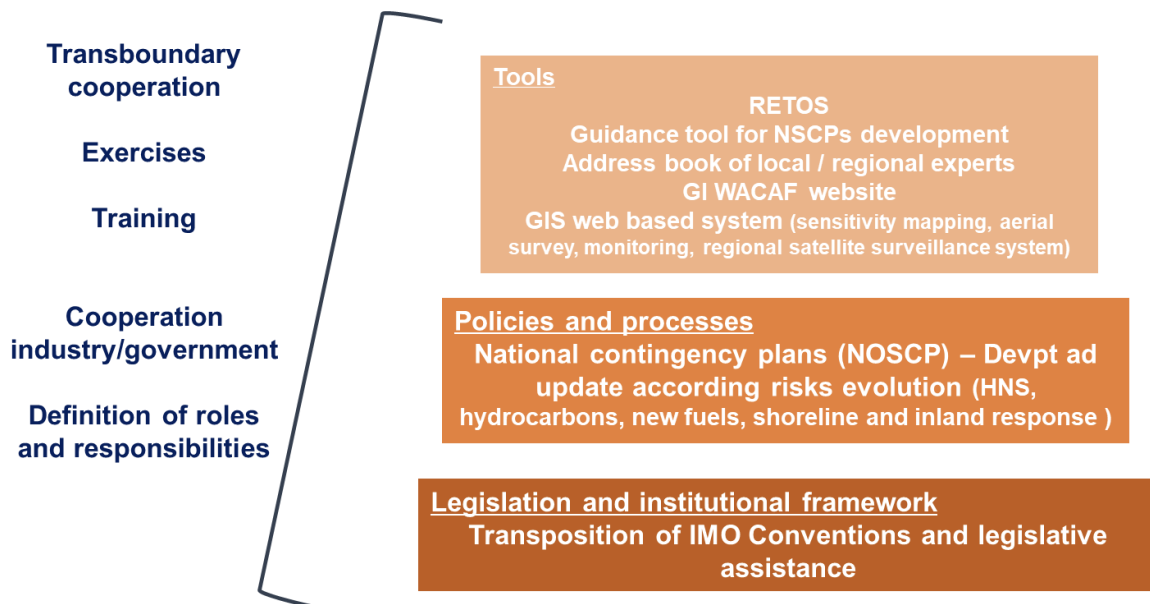


Figure 10. Recommendations from the 9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference

## 8. Conclusions

Following three years of increasing challenges brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference revealed a real enthusiasm from the delegates to see the resumption of capacity-building within the countries, and a wish to see the GI WACAF project continue and to expand to cover different aspects of oil spill preparedness and response.

Delegates expressed a wish for the development of tools and training in their use for:

- Guidance for the development of NOSCPs
- Assessing the level of preparedness and response capacities (RETOS)
- Developing surveillance capabilities (satellite imagery; aerial surveillance, web-based GIS systems including sensitivity maps, as well as survey and operational data)

Many delegates were keen to explore the possibility of undertaking further sub-regional activities, further spill response exercises with neighbouring countries in order to better understand and address the challenges likely to arise during an actual incident.

Interest was expressed for national-level capacity building/training of local experts, whether from industry or government, and to set up a regional compendium of experts to expand the network, with the hope to share in the future, both capacities and resources.

It was agreed that the Conference had once again presented an excellent opportunity to reflect on past achievements and propose improvements and developments for the future. The event also proved to be an excellent platform for the exchange and dissemination of knowledge with the aim of strengthening oil spill response capability in West, Central and Southern Africa. Whilst the participants acknowledged and celebrated the milestones achieved, they remained conscious of the work ahead. The productive discussions and exchanges helped shape the direction of the project to ensure its continued progress in fulfilling its mandate.

This success is only possible with the continuous support of all stakeholders, most importantly that from the Government and Industry focal points.

Some of the main outcomes from the Conference included updates to the:

- Country Profiles that will be made available on the GI WACAF website at [www.giwacaf.org](http://www.giwacaf.org);
- National action plans were, providing lists of priority actions per country, with an indication of dates, nature of the activity, and organisations responsible;
- preparedness matrixes, which will reflect the objectives and priorities for the 2023-2024 biennium, and will also enable to assess the progress achieved in the region since 2006.

This positive feedback is also reflected in the evaluation questionnaires. More than 90% of the delegates considered that the objectives of the Conference were achieved and 95% said they were likely to use the information they learned in the future.

## 9. Annexes

### Annex 1 - Conference Programme

#### MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER: *Highlights*

8H30	REGISTRATION
9H30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opening Ceremony</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opening notes</b>, Esi Nerquaye Tetteh, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</li> <li>• <b>Opening Speeches</b>, Dallas Laryea (IMO) &amp; Anatole Cramer (Total Energies)</li> <li>• <b>Key note</b>, Cynthia Asare Bediako, Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI)</li> </ul>
10H30	Group picture and coffee break
	<b>The GI WACAF Project</b> , Anaïs Guillou, GI WACAF Project Manager
11H00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evolutions and perspectives in the region</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evolution of Oil &amp; Gas Industry</b>, Terry Moore (Chevron)</li> <li>• <b>Evolution of the shipping industry</b>, Numbu Issahaque Sumabe, Ghana Maritime Administration (GMA)</li> </ul>
12H00	<b>Spill Compensation mechanisms overview</b> , Gaute Sivertsen, International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds)
12H30	Lunch
13H45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2022 Highlights by Focal Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NIGERIA</b>, Support for the effective implementation of IMO conventions, <i>Idris Musa</i>, National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA)</li> <li>• <b>GUINEA – BISSAU</b>, National Plan development, <i>Anaïs Guillou and Lindsay Page-Jones in the name of Octavio Cabral</i>, Ministry of Environment and Biodiversity (MAB)</li> <li>• <b>TOGO</b>, Support to acquire and setup response resources, <i>Matchonnawe Bakai</i> (Dir. Environment)</li> <li>• <b>NAMIBIA</b>, Joint Government / Industry national Incident Management System (IMS) 300 training and exercise, <i>Pinehas Auene in the name of Shapua Kalomo</i>, Directorate of Maritime Affairs (DMA)</li> </ul>
15H30	Coffee break
16H00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2022 Highlights – Continued</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>, Large scale exercise, <i>D. Ravi Naicker</i>, South Africa Maritime Safety Agency (SAMSA)</li> <li>• <b>Benguela Current Convention (BCC)</b> Introductory remarks, <i>Xolela Wellem</i></li> </ul>
17H00	<b>GI WACAF Outlook on the next biennium</b> , Anaïs Guillou (GI WACAF Project Manager)
18H30	<b>Reception</b> , Presentation from Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA)

**TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER: *National Preparedness***

**9H00**

Sharing knowledge and experience

- **Key components for national spill response systems in the region**, *Natalie Monvoisin* (Cedre)
- **Spill preparedness assessment method & tools, recent examples**, *Peter Taylor*, Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (OSPRI) & *Anne Reglain*, Ocean Damage Consulting (ODC)
- **WAKASHIO Case Study**, focus on Very Low Sulfur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) & mangroves, *Franck Laruelle*, International Tanker Owner Pollution Federation (ITOPF)
- **TRIO Large Scale Exercise**, *Calum Goodes*, bp

**10H30** Coffee break

**11H00**

<p><i>Work Groups</i></p> <p><b>GI WACAF Areas of Improvement</b></p> <p>EN – A. Tucker (BP) &amp; W. Griffiths (IMO)</p> <p>----</p> <p>FR – A. Cramer (TE) &amp; N. Monvoisin (Cedre)</p>	<p><i>Work Groups</i></p> <p><b>RETOS Applications &amp; Use (Private / Public)</b></p> <p>FR – A. Reglain (ODC)</p> <p>----</p> <p>EN – P. Taylor (OSPRI)</p>
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**12H30** Lunch

**13H45** Spill Monitoring, assessment, Health & Safety and Shoreline response

Drifting buoys, Air quality	Oiled Shoreline survey	Oil types, sampling & chemical dispersion
Coffee Break included		
Drones for surveying	Protection of personnel and use of sorbents	Sandy shoreline clean-up

**17H30**

## WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER: *Joint Engagement*

9H00

### Sharing knowledge and experience

- **Interfaces between Government & Responsible party for response management,** *Anatole Cramer (TE)*
- **Providing incident assistance in region,** *Andrew Nicoll, Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)*
- **Stakeholder engagement during response,** *Andrew Tucker (bp)*
- **Drone Survey,** *Manuel Pungo (TE Angola)*

10H30

Coffee break

11H00

*Work Groups*  
**Joint Government – Industry Operational Communication**

FR – Rep. National Maritime Affairs Agency, Senegal  
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EN – R. Zaccarini & A. Tucker (BP), R. Naicker (SAMSA)

*Work Groups*  
**Ensuring shared Situational Awareness**

EN – T. Augusto (ExxonMobil) & D. Soares (ITOPF)  
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FR – F. Laruelle (ITOPF) & N. Monvoisin (Cedre)

12H30

Lunch

13H45

### **Claims: Roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders**

*M. Homan (IOPC)*

### **Joint Table-top exercise**

*Based on ITOPF board game, managed by ITOPF*

#### **Briefing**

Split into groups  
with assistance of facilitators  
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#### **Exercise**

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#### **Debriefing**

Coffee Break  
included

17H30

## THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER: *Next Biennium*

9H00

**Introduction (Plenary)**  
*Anatole Cramer (TE), Anaïs Guillou (GI WACAF)*

*National Groups*  
**Face to face discussions: National delegates and facilitators**

- Review of updated country profile
- Discussions on national priority areas of improvement, planned actions for upcoming years and possible support of GI WACAF, IMO and O&G Industry

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*Oil & Gas Industry Groups*  
**Working groups facilitated by GI WACAF Industry chairs**

**Group 1:** A. Cramer (TE), T. Augusto (ExxonMobil)

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**Group 2:** A. Tucker (BP), T. Moore (Chevron)

12H30

Lunch

13H45

**Conference Highlights & Recommendations for the next biennium**

*Anaïs Guillou, GI WACAF*

Break

**Closing ceremony**

**Closing remarks, Will Griffiths (IMO) & Anatole Cramer (TE)**

**Closing speech (Authorities from Ghana)**

16H00

***End of Conference***

*Thank you*

## Annex 2 - Speakers and facilitators

CABRAL Octavio

Guinea-Bissau Focal Point for GI WACAF, Abidjan Convention

Octavio Cabral has been involved in the activities of the GI WACAF since the launch of the project in 2006. Octavio has a wealth of professional experience in environmental protection: he was the director of the “Bureau d'études et d'évaluation pour le développement durable” (GEADD), as well as the president of the Guinean Association for Environmental Assessment (AGAA). Regarding marine and coastal pollution, Octavio has been involved in the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) project since 2005 as well as the Canary Islands Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME, 2013) project. He is currently the national focal point of Guinea Bissau for the GI WACAF, but also for the Abidjan Convention.



CRAMER Anatole  
Oil Spill Preparedness and response advisor  
TotalEnergies SE

Anatole has been involved with the GI WACAF since he took the position of Oil Spill Response Advisor for TotalEnergies back in 2016. Before that, he joined TE in 2006 and successively occupied positions of Environmental Engineer in Indonesia, Russian Federation, France, and Uganda. While sitting in the Headquarters of the Company in Paris, he coordinated the Environmental Studies for new projects in Africa, which developed his strong binds with the continent. He is now sitting as a member of the GI WACAF Steering Committee, representing TotalEnergies and became Industry Chairman for the project in 2020.



GRIFFITHS Will  
OPRC/HNS Officer  
Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Will joined the IMO in May 2022 having spent the previous 8 years at Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL), the largest industry-funded cooperative oil spill response organization. With a BSc in Marine Biology and an MSc in Marine Science, Policy and Law, he has experience responding to oil spills across the world, managing beach clean-up and offshore operations to providing incident management support. In addition to response, Will also has extensive



experience supporting preparedness activities, developing contingency plans and delivering training. As a Technical Officer at the International Maritime Organization, he assists international governments with issues pertaining to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation (OPRC 90) and its HNS protocol.



HOMAN Mark  
Claims Manager, IOPC

Mark commenced his professional career as a naval architect before re-qualifying as an Admiralty lawyer, working with an international maritime law firm, investigating marine casualties, salvage and collision incidents, before moving to teach law at the University of Law, London, and subsequently joining the IOPC Funds as Claims Manager, in 2010. Mark has been involved with oil pollution incidents in Greece, South Korea, Nigeria, Mauritius, India, Venezuela, and the Philippines. Mark has lectured extensively on the oil pollution / HNS and liability and compensation regimes in workshops worldwide, to government departments, industry and students, and has assisted with the provision of legal advice to Member States on implementing legislation, and to the IOPC Funds Secretariat on many legal issues regarding incidents under the 1992 CLC / Fund Conventions and separately upon the HNS Convention.



LARUELLE Franck  
Technical Team Manager  
International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF)

Dr. Franck Laruelle holds a PhD in marine biology from Brest University in France and previously worked with the environment and emergency response services of the French oil spill research organization Cedre for 6 years. During that time, he has acted as a technical adviser on behalf of the French government on a number of spills, including ERIKA (1999) and PRESTIGE (2002). Franck joined ITOPF in 2006 and has since acted as a technical adviser on maritime incidents worldwide. Franck has attended a number of incidents involving tankers, including the main IOPC Fund cases of these last 15 years such as SOLAR 1 in the Philippines (2006), HEBEI SPIRIT in South Korea (2007) and AGIA ZONI II in Greece (2017) as well as incidents involving bunker spills from other types of ships. Franck was promoted to Technical Team Manager in January 2010.



MONVOISIN Natalie  
Studies and Training Department Manager,  
Emergency Response Team Duty Engineer – Cedre

As an industrial environmental engineer by training, Natalie Monvoisin took part in studies in the field of water and soil management and pollution before joining Cedre in 2002. Joining Cedre's response team in 2003, she was heavily involved in on-land response to the oil spill caused by the tanker PRESTIGE and assisted technical advisor to the authorities and municipalities. After 9 months working abroad, in Hungary, as part of a European project named PHARE, aimed at conducting a feasibility study and drafting a development plan for a national spill response training center, she joined the Contingency Planning Department in 2005 and then the Studies and Training department, she was appointed Head of the Department in 2016. In this role, she is in charge of Cedre's engineering projects (training, contingency planning, audits), designs, organizes and conducts various training courses and develops contingency plans for French or foreign administrations, oil industry, national or international private shipping or oil companies worldwide. She has gained hands-on experience in crisis management and response techniques through her involvement in response operations in the wake of oil spills in inland and marine waters in France (and abroad (Africa)). She has also been a member of Cedre's Emergency Response Team since 2009, as an appointed Duty Engineer.



MOORE Terry  
Enterprise Emergency Management Advisor, Chevron

Terry has worked for 38 years in Emergency management. After 16 years in the Fire Service and Paramedic sector, he has dedicated a decade to government emergency management in the city of Houston. The following decade, Terry has worked as crisis emergency management advisor for Noble Energy, before being a crisis emergency management advisor for Chevron, his current position. He has studied the in the paramedic program in the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, and is certified as Incident Commander System Instructor by the FEMA Emergency Management Institute. Terry also has a certification from the Disaster Recovery International Institute (ABCP).



NAICKER Ravi (Captain)  
Senior Manager: Navigation, Security & Environment  
South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)

Captain Naicker is a qualified mariner with thirty-one years sea and shore experience in the maritime industry. Twenty-two of these years were with Port Authority with the highlight being appointed as Harbor master of three of South African ports over a ten-year period. He currently has nine years of experience with SAMSA as a senior manager and participates in many national and international forums for matters relating to safety of navigation, maritime security and environment protection.



NICOLL Andy  
Principal Preparedness & Response Authority  
Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)

Andrew (Andy) Nicoll has over 30 years' experience in oil spill preparedness and response in Government and Industry. He trained at the College of Maritime Studies, Warsash where he qualified with a TEC Diploma in Nautical Science and a DOT Class 3 Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer). In OSRL he has performed several roles including Responder, Principal Trainer / Consultant, Advocacy Manager, and Incident Manager. He has responded to spills all over the world including as Technical Advisor to the SCAT Program Manager during the Macondo incident (Gulf of Mexico, 2010). He was seconded to Ipieca in 2018 to manage the Oil Spill Group on behalf of industry. Now returned to OSRL, he provides specialized, industry leading insights and expertise, to support staff and to raise the profile of OSRL as a trusted source of technical expertise and advice internally and externally, across a range of stakeholders



PAGE-JONES Lindsay  
GI WACAF Technical Advisor

Trained as a coastal geographer, Lindsay joined OTRA, French oil spill consultancy company, in 2003. Since then, he has participated in various preparedness activities for national and local authorities, ports, regional projects and the Oil & Gas industry: oil spill contingency planning, implementation of customized Incident & Crisis Management Systems, coastal sensitivity mapping projects (and guidelines with IPIECA), waste management guidelines (with Cedre for REMPEC and IMO), training (all levels, classroom and field), equipment deployment exercise onshore, in ports and offshore, facilitation of large

scale exercises, national seminars for National Spill Contingency review, response capability development-improvement plans (trainings & exercises, equipment inspection-scoping-acquisition-installation and maintenance). Lindsay was also seconded for 5 years, as oil spill advisor & responder, for Total E&P Angola. He has worked in countries of various region: Europe, African, Western Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, Middle East, Central Asia-Kazakhstan (and in Brazil and Papua-New Guinea). He is an accredited oil spill response trainer, is on the IMO roster of oil spill consultants. He has participated in various oil spill response operations (offshore for aerial surveillance, response and onshore for surveys and clean-up, and in the emergency management teams).



REGLAIN Anne  
Consultant  
ODC

Mrs. Réglain is an environmental engineer specializing in the field of marine casualty and pollution response. She has a strong international background and has responded to a variety of ship-source spills and vessel groundings in Europe, South America and Asia. She has demonstrated strength in coordinating and managing large organizations, monitoring the costs and the progress of operations as well as investigating impacts to the environment and economic resources following an incident. She has a deep understanding and knowledge of international conventions and protocols relevant to ship source pollution and is well versed in liability and compensation matters. Having worked to strengthen capabilities and cooperation within governments as a secondee to IMO's Regional Centre in Curacao (REMPEITC), she is particularly familiar with providing assistance to governments. Anne is also a praised speaker and trainer to high-level seminars and workshops. Prior to being an independent consultant, she worked for four years at ITOFF as a Technical Adviser.



KALOMO Shapua  
Deputy Director Marine Pollution Control & SAR

Mr. Kalomo is a well-rounded Technical Professional with over 8 years' progressive experience in Environmental Sciences and Marine Pollution Control. He is currently employed as Acting Deputy Director: Marine Pollution Control & SAR at the Ministry of Works and Transport in Walvis Bay, Namibia. Where his duty as Divisional Head is to manage Namibia's marine pollution preparedness and response system and to provide for the implementation of all International Marine Pollution Control Conventions such as OPRC-95. Mr. Kalomo holds a Bachelor of Science (honors) in Environmental Biology & Geology, as well as a Master of Business Administration Specializing in Natural Resources Management, both from the University of Namibia.

Additionally, Mr. Kalomo is a graduate of the World Maritime University where he obtained a Master of Science Specializing in Maritime Safety and Environmental Administration.



SIVERTSEN Gaute  
IOPC Funds Director

Mr. Sivertsen joined the IOPC Funds as Director on 1 January 2022, having been elected by the 1992 Fund Assembly for a term of five years. In his previous role as Director in the Maritime Department of the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Mr. Sivertsen was responsible for maritime law, rules and regulations relating to maritime safety, security and seafarer issues. He was also responsible for the governance of the Norwegian Maritime Authority. He followed IOPC Funds' matters and represented Norway at meetings of the Funds' governing bodies for almost 30 years. He gained experience in a leading role at the organization in his capacity as the 1992 Fund Assembly Chair, a position he held for over 10 years, from 2011 to 2021. He was also responsible for coordination of all matters relating to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for almost 22 years. Mr. Sivertsen holds a law degree from the University of Oslo.



TAYLOR Peter  
Manager – Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (OSPRI, Caspian Sea / Black Sea / Central Eurasia)

Peter Taylor graduated from University with a degree in biological sciences. He spent six years in environmental consultancy prior to specializing in oil spill preparedness and response activities for the last 20 years. He has been involved in over 400 oil spill related projects in 40+ countries. These projects have included oil spill contingency planning, training and the development of exercises, alongside providing guidance during the response to major oil spills. Mr. Taylor has been supporting IPIECA's inputs to the Global Initiative since 1998, helping promote effective contingency planning around the world. He has managed their Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (Caspian Sea–Black Sea–Central Eurasia), known as OSPRI, since its inception in 2003 to the present.



TUCKER Andrew  
Oil Spill Manager, BP

Andrew Tucker has been with BP since 2012. He is the BP global Oil Spill Manager. Prior to joining BP, he worked with ITOPF for 8 years, during which he worked and responded to oil and chemical shipping spills across the world. Before his time at ITOPF, Andrew worked for the UK Environment Agency for 10 years dealing with pollution control, contaminated land remediation and waste management. He has a B.Sc. in Environmental Biology and a Master's degree in Environmental Science.



WELLEM Xolela  
Compliance Manager Benguela Current Commission

Xolela Wellem, a South African national joined the Benguela Current Convention (BCC) in January 2018 as a Compliance Manager. Xolela has coordinated and facilitated, *inter alia*, regional initiatives towards prevention, abatement, mitigation and preparedness for oil spills, as well as Ballast Water Management. Prior to joining the BCC, Xolela worked for the government of South Africa for a period of 8 years, as a Control Fisheries Officer and later a Control Environmental Officer in the Ministries of Fisheries and Environment respectively. During this time, he ensured protection and promotion of sustainable use of marine resources, prevention of pollution and environmental degradation at sea. Academically, Xolela, holds a Master's Degree of Science in International Fisheries Management from the University of Tromsø, Norway and an Honors' Degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Fort Hare, South Africa.



## GI WACAF TEAM



AL AMIR RIM

GI WACAF Project Coordinator

Rim has recently joined the GI WACAF team as Project Coordinator, after completing her masters in Risk Management, Cooperation and Development at Bordeaux's Political Institute. She has previously worked on a study on Maritime security in the Mozambique Channel within a French research center (International and Strategic Relations Institute), where she analyzed impacts of climate change in the maritime defense sector. The research she has participated in took part in the scope of the Climate, Energy, Security program.



GUILLOU Anaïs

GI WACAF Project Manager

Anaïs Guillou is the GI WACAF project manager since May 2022. She is responsible for the definition and implementation of the GI WACAF action plan, and ensures the Project reaches its strategic objectives. She carries out and oversees the delivery of technical cooperation activities implemented under the framework of the relevant IMO Conventions. She also contributes to increasing the visibility of the project and seeks to strengthen the links with stakeholders in the region. She liaises and reports directly to the GI WACAF Steering Committee. Anaïs is supported by Rim Al Amir, GI WACAF Project Coordinator. Previously, Anaïs worked for fifteen years as project manager for a French consulting firm. As manager of the marine environment team, she carried out and supervised numerous environmental monitoring studies at sea on behalf of Oil & Gas companies, particularly in the Gulf of Guinea. Furthermore, in the framework of environmental impact studies and oil spill contingency plans, she has also participated in carrying out modeling studies of discharges in the marine environment (oil spills, produced water, drilling cuttings, chemicals, etc.) and of the response associated. She holds a master's in Oceanography and Marine Environment Management from Pierre et Marie Curie University (Paris).

## Annex 3 – List of participants

### ATTENDANCE REGISTER: NATIONAL DELEGATES, INDUSTRIES AND PARTNERS (122 participants)

9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference for the Global Initiative for West and Central Africa  
(GI WACAF Project)  
Accra, Labadi Beach Hotel  
National delegates

Country	Names
Benin	METONWAHO Fabrice Yehonnou Tchegbenton
Cabo Verde	ROSARIO Joao Lopes
Cabo Verde	GONÇALVES Aleida Correia Andrade
Cameroon	NTSAMA Jean Noël M.
Cameroon	PENDA Justin Theodore
Cameroon	NLEND Jean
Congo	NKOU Christian Armel
Congo	MEDARD Ngobo
Cote d'Ivoire	EBA Mian Germain
DRC	BOPE BOPE LAPWONG Jean-Marie
DRC	KASISI Ernest Nyankungwa
Equatorial Guinea	OLOMO EYA Alejo Sima
Equatorial Guinea	NZANG OSA MANGUE Almandra Sosa
Equatorial Guinea	YEKUE EYONO Ecolastica Milagrosa
Gabon	MANGONGO Gilles Christian
The Gambia	SAIDYLEIGH Wandifa
Ghana	AGBENOR-EFUNAM Kojo
Ghana	AWUNI Emmanuel
Ghana	SUMABE Numbu Issahaque
Guinea Bissau	CABRAL Octavio
Guinea Bissau	DA SILVA Rui Antonio
Guinea	CAMARA Ibrahima N'Gaye
Guinea	SOUMAH Ismael
Liberia	GONO Charles Abel
Liberia	Toe Twe Anthony
Mauritania	TRAORÉ Mohamedou
Namibia	KALOMO Shapua
Namibia	AUENE Pinehas
Nigeria	MUSA Idris Olubola
Nigeria	GUMSURI Mohammed Suleman
Nigeria	ADEKUIULE Saliu Wasiu
Nigeria	JAMOH Bashir Yusuf
Sao Tome	NETO do ESPERITO SANTO Horacio

Country	Names
Sao Tome	De CEITA VAZ do ROSARIO Manuel Fernandes
Senegal	MBENGUE Seydina Djibril
Senegal	DIAW Abdoul Tanor
Sierra Leone	SESAY Duramani Kempes
Sierra Leone	GAMANGA Sama Ansu
Togo	GIDI Dzoka Kami
Togo	BAKAI Matchonnawe
South Africa	RENDERS Ian
South Africa	JAMES Ralephenya Metse
South Africa	NAICKER Dhanabalan Ravi

### Industry representatives

Company	Names
Azule Energy	CRAVID Claudio
TotalEnergies Headquarter	CRAMER Anatole
TotalEnergies Nigeria	OKIKE Obiora
TotalEnergies Nigeria	MBELE Nnaemeka
TotalEnergies Angola	PUNGO Manuel
TotalEnergies Afrique du Sud	MUDAU Khuliso
bp Headquarter	TUCKER Andrew
bp Headquarter	ZACCARINI Ross
bp Headquarter	GOODES Calum
Eni Ghana	PARELLA Arsenio
Eni Ghana	PASQUALE Antonio
Eni Ghana	BARTELS-KODWO Maame
Eni Ghana	SACKITEY Bernard
Eni Ghana	OSSEI Anthony
OSRL for Eni Ghana	VAN AS Pieter
Chevron Headquarter	MOORE Terry
Chevron Nigeria	MABIAKU Timothy
Chevron Nigeria	OKOLO Chiedozie
Chevron Nigeria	AJAYI Kolawole
Chevron Nigeria	GIFT Amorighoye
Chevron SASBU Angola	FRANCISCO Nelson
Chevron SASBU Angola	BUITI Andre
Chevron SASBU Angola	JOAO Daniel
Chevron SASBU Angola	CASSOLA Manuel
Tullow Ghana	ARYEE Christian
Tullow Ghana	GURA Joseph
ExxonMobil	OBIAMO Jorge

ExxonMobil	AUGUSTO Tania
Shell Nigeria	ANIBASA Usman
Shell Nigeria	ADEOYE Francis
Shell Nigeria	ODION-OBOHENSE Austen
Shell Nigeria	NWOSU Abatam

#### Technical partners and GI WACAF team

Organization	Names
CNA	EZEAKU Cyril Ezeaku
BCC	WELLEM Xolela
ITOPF	LARUELLE Franck
ITOPF	SOARES Duarte
ITOPF	KIRK Natalie
ITOPF	JEWELL Amy
OSRL	NICOLL Andrew
OSRL	SACKEY Lady Felicity
Cedre	MONVOISIN Natalie
IOPC	SIVERTSEN Gaute
IOPC	HOMAN Mark
OSPRI	TAYLOR Peter
ODC	REGLAIN Anne
IMO	GRIFFITHS Will
IMO	LARYEA Dallas
GI WACAF	GUILLOU Anaïs
GI WACAF	PAGE-JONES Lindsay
GI WACAF	AL AMIR Rim
Le Floch Depollution	DARIDON Jean-Luc
WIMOWCA	Sylvia Asana Dauda OWU
WIMOWCA	Jemilat Jawulaa MAHAMAH

### Ghanaian Stakeholders and representatives

Organization	Names
MESTI	ASARE BEDIAKO Cynthia
Ministry of Energy	ISSAH Fatawu
Ghana Navy	Captain AYALAZO
	JUNIOR WIREKO Samuel
	AMITEYE Getter
GPHA	Captain QUARTEY Daniel
Marine Police	ABABIO Antwi
Regional Maritime University	Capt. ADAMU
Fisheries and Marine Science, UG	NUNOO Francis
Wildlife Division, Forestry Commission	GYIMAH Richard
Ghana Immigration Service	AWOTWE Lawrence
Aker Energy	DOWUONA HAMMOND Edith
Zeal Environmental Technology	ENIN Kwaku
Zeal Environmental Technology	GAMIGA Abdulai Samad
EPA, Ag. D/Accra East	OPOKU Irene
EPA, Ag. D/Western Region	DIAWUO George
EPA, Ag. D/Volta Region	LOMOTHEY Hope
EPA, Ag. D/Central Region	FIAGOME Shine
EPA, Deputy Director/ Petroleum	KOFI AGBETSIAFA Samuel
EPA, Deputy Director/ Petroleum	KOTOE Lawrence
EPA, PPO/Petroleum	ASIEDU Godwin
EPA, SPO/Petroleum	ENYONAM ACHEAMPONG Edith
EPA, SPO/Petroleum	YAA APPIAH Nana
EPA, PO/Petroleum	KOFI DOKYI Baffour
EPA, PO/Petroleum	SERWAA KYERE Sandra

### Media / Translation / General support

Role	Names
Media (photo & video)	RUSSEL Della
Media (photo & video)	BUTA Geoffrey
Media (photo & video)	YINIME Julius
Media (photo & video)	BUTA Zuame
Excelingua Services	AMEXO Dickson
Excelingua Services	KOUADIO BOGUI Paul
Excelingua Services	VULOR Senyo
General support	YENTUMI Katherine

### Speakers and facilitators

The experts, national delegates and industry members invited to facilitate and present this 9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference were:

- Mr. Octavio Cabral, Guinee Bissau Focal Point for GI WACAF, Abidjan Convention
- Mr. Anatole Cramer, Oil Spill Preparedness and Response advisor, TotalEnergies (TE)
- Mrs. Anaïs Guillou, GI WACAF Project Manager
- Mr. Will Griffiths, OPRC/HNS Officer, Maritime Environment Division, IMO
- Mr. Mark Homan, Claims Manager, IOPC
- Mr. Franck Laruelle, Technical Team Manager, ITOPF
- Mrs. Natalie Monvoisin, Studies and Training Department Manager, Emergency Response Team Duty Engineer, Cedre
- Mr. Terry Moore, Enterprise Emergency Management Advisor, Chevron
- Mr. Capt. Ravi Naicker, Senior Manager: Navigation, Security and Environment, South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)
- Mr. Andy Nicoll, Principal preparedness and Response Authority, Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)
- Mr. Lindsay Page-Jones, GI WACAF Technical Advisor
- Ms. Anne Reglain, Consultant, ODC
- Mr. Shapua Kalomo, Deputy Director Marine Pollution Control and SAR
- Mr. Gaute Sivertsen, IOPC Funds Director
- Mr. Taylor Peter, Manager at Oil Spill Preparedness Regional Initiative (OSPRI)
- Mr. Andrew Tucker, Oil Spill Manager, bp

The following participants also contributed to the organisation of the conference, by facilitating plenary sessions, work groups, demonstrations, and specific presentations or exercises:

- Mr. Calum Goodes, Regional C&CM Advisor Mauritania and Senegal
- Mr. Ross Zaccarini, Senior Regional C&CM Manager Africa and Middle East
- Mr. Pieter Van, Eni Ghana
- Dr. Duarte Soares, Senior Technical Advisor, ITOPF
- Mrs Natalie Kirk, Technical Adviser, ITOPF
- Dr. Amy Jewell, Technical Adviser, ITOPF
- Mr. Jean-Luc Daridon, Le Floch Dépollution
- Mrs. Sylvia Asana Dauda Owu, WIMOWCA President
- Mrs. Tania Augusto, ExxonMobil
- Mr. Kojo Agbenor-Efunam, EPA
- Mr. Jean Nlend, Maritime Affairs, Cameroun representative

The following participants contributed to the global organisation of the event:

- Mrs. Katherine Yentumi, former IMO Representative
- Mrs. Della Russel Ocloo, journalist, Graphic Communications Group Ltd.



## Annex 4 – Welcoming notes EPA

9<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR WEST, CENTRAL AND  
SOUTHERN AFRICA (GI WACAF),  
LABADI BEACH HOTEL, ACCRA, GHANA, 07-10 NOVEMBER 2022  
WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)  
HON. HENRY KWABENA KOKOFU

Representative of IMO,  
Representative of Ipieca,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is both a pleasure and an honour for me to welcome you to Ghana in my role as the host and the head of the focal institution for the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF Project) in Ghana.

Oil spill incidents remind us of our need to be prepared in the event of a spill. In order to ensure that a response will be managed effectively, preparation for a spill is a responsibility that is shared by both government and industry. The importance of cooperation with respect to oil spill preparedness and response cannot, therefore, be overemphasized.

That is why the GI WACAF Project presented such unique opportunity for the 22 countries within the WACAF Region, when it was launched in 2006 for both government and industry to work together. Sixteen (16) years down the line, can we look back and say, “Truly we have been able to work together in raising the preparedness level in the Region to a higher pedestal” as envisaged?

As I see it, our role here for the next four (4) days is to explore, together, this critical question. The continued development of effective oil spill response in the WACAF Region is paramount for all of us. In the event of a spill, all involved parties have to act cooperatively and with a high degree of coordination to achieve the highest level of response effectiveness. The true vehicle for that effectiveness, cooperation and coordination has always been a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP).

The development and continuous improvement of a NOSCP is the corner stone of a fast, efficient and well-coordinated response to oil spill events. However, contingency plans need to be tested, exercised and reviewed regularly to be proved as fully operational. Hence the main objective of this Regional Conference is to develop action plans to create a road map by which our various NOSCPs can be tested, exercised, updated and improved.

I would therefore like to encourage delegates to participate actively during the next four days, and to ensure a successful outcome of this 9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Conference 2022.

On behalf of the Government of Ghana and the Environmental Protection Agency, I again wish to welcome you and urge you to work hard as you have always been doing when you meet under the GI WACAF Regional Conference umbrella.

Thank you for your time and attention.

## Annex 5 – Opening speech, IMO

**IMO Opening Remarks  
9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Biennial Conference  
Accra, Ghana, 7 November 2022  
Dallas Laryea, IMO**

Honourable Minister(s), Excellencies, Distinguished representatives of the Governments of the West and Central and South African littoral States, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to welcome you all here today on behalf of the International Maritime Organization to this ninth GI WACAF biennial conference. As you know, this meeting was deferred by a year due to the COVID-pandemic, I am therefore especially pleased to see such a large and diverse group in attendance at this conference.

The GI WACAF project represents a successful sixteen-year partnership between IMO -- as the specialized agency of the United Nations and the global standard setting body for international shipping representing the government sector and IPIECA -- the global oil and gas association for advancing environmental and social performance across the energy transition representing the petroleum sector.

This productive government/industry collaboration has yielded much success in the region and provides an important foundation for progressing on oil pollution preparedness and response efforts and the state of national readiness across the 22 project countries represented here today.

The most relevant IMO convention to the work of the GI WACAF project is the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation known as the 'OPRC Convention', providing the basis and foundation for the work of the project.

The OPRC Convention provides a global framework for

- ✓ facilitating international co-operation and mutual assistance in preparing for and responding to major oil pollution incidents; and
- ✓ Setting out the main requirements for establishing oil spill response capacity at national and regional levels.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the maritime and petroleum sectors - like the rest of the world - are voyaging through substantial change. The introduction of new Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oils (VLSFOs) as a result of IMO's "2020 Sulphur Cap" represents the largest regulatory change in the shipping sector for more than 30 years. It equally required substantial change and adaptation from the petroleum sector to meet this new fuel demand in the market. For us, within the oil spill response community, it provides a new class of fuels to which we will have to respond, with available information and research on these new fuels still in the early stages.

We will also shortly be faced with the introduction of new 'alternative fuels' in shipping, that will demand a completely different approach in terms of the response requirements.

Against this backdrop we have just come through a worldwide pandemic of previously unimaginable proportions, which has forced us all to review and adapt our working practices and approaches—but also has provided new opportunities. For IMO, this has meant developing new modalities for delivering technical assistance to support developing countries, focussing on e-Learning and online training in lieu of "traditional" in-person workshops.

This ninth meeting provides us the opportunity to come together, once again, in person to dialogue on important issues, to meet up with friends and colleagues, and to set the programme of work for the next two years and resume in person activities and to continue to progress on the agenda of improving preparedness across the 22 project countries. If recent events have taught us anything, it is that we must be diligent in our efforts noting that the sustainability and excellent work carried out by the GI WACAF Project requires ongoing attention and commitment from all stakeholders.

I would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of Ghana for agreeing to host us here in Accra -- and in particular to Mr Kojo Agbenor-Efunam and his team at the Ghanaian Maritime Authority for their support in the planning and preparations for the workshop. I wish to equally thank my IPIECA colleagues for their ongoing commitment to this project.

You will also note that there are many new faces here today within the project team, all of whom have joined us since the last conference.... Ms Anaïs Guillou, Ms Rim Al Amir, and Mr Will Griffiths, I am sure you will have ample opportunity to get to know them better over the coming days.

Ladies and Gentlemen, wishing us all a successful meeting and a productive outcome to our discussions, which will reinvigorate the project and establish the way forward for the next two years.

Thank you.

## Annex 6 – Opening Speech, Ipieca

### **9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Regional Conference Anatole Cramer, Industry Chair**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Good Morning,

For those who do not know me yet, I am Anatole Cramer, working for TE as OSP&R advisor. I have been involved in GI WACAF since 2017 and the conference in Abidjan, participating to several webinars and conferences, taking the role of GI WACAF vice chair in 2020 and becoming chair in early 2021 replacing Rupert Bravery.

It is both a pleasure and an honour for me to give this opening address in my role as the Industry Chair of the Steering Committee of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa at the occasion of this very important meeting.

I offer my thanks to the Government of Ghana, in particular the Environmental Protection Agency for hosting this important event.

Of course, we all know the origins of GI WACAF. The initiative was born of two parents, the International Maritime Organization and the oil industry (in the form of IPIECA), who had a shared desire to strengthen the level of preparedness for and response to oil spills in the 22 countries occupying the Atlantic coast of Africa. The Project is now 16 years old and since its creation it has implemented over 137 technical cooperation activities with a total participation of nearly 7000 delegates. All that effort has had a positive result and the status of oil spill preparedness and response in the region immeasurably improved in those 16 years.

It is true to say that the general trend across the region has been one of improving oil spill preparedness and response capability. However, it was agreed during the last Regional Conference that the rate of response development has varied significantly between individual countries, with some advancing more rapidly than others. A significant reason behind this is the maturity of the oil industry in each country. For some oil has been around for many decades, for others the oil is still in discovery. The strength of the GI WACAF Project is that it can accommodate these differences and tailor its programmes accordingly.

The 2020-2021 biennium has been extended for an extra year to cover 2022 as a transitional period because of the pandemic. This period has been very challenging for GI WACAF as travelling to meet you physically is key of a successful assistance. However, I do believe that we have able to address this challenge and that we have learnt from it by using new ways of communication and promoting hybrid assistance.

At the Conference here this week, and looking forward to what we need to achieve in the next biennium, there are two key areas for consideration:

- National preparedness
- Joint engagement between governments and industry

To ensure these sessions are properly facilitated, we have gathered a large panel of experts, with considerable individual expertise and an enormous collective wealth of international experience in all aspects of preparedness and response. In line with the Project's philosophy, they come from a variety of backgrounds, ranging from international organisations to private entities. I invite us all to fully participate and engage with them.

In closing, I would like to extend thanks to all those involved in the preparation and delivery of this Conference: with particular thanks to the GI WACAF team from IMO, to IPIECA and once again to the Government of Ghana and to the Environmental Protection Agency for hosting of this important conference.

## Annex 7 – Key Notes and welcoming address, MESTI

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY MRS. CYNTHIA ASARE BEDIAKO THE CHIEF DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION (MESTI) ON THE OCCASION OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR WEST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (GI WACAF), HELD ON MONDAY 07 NOVEMBER 2022 AT THE LA BEACH HOTEL, ACCRA, GHANA.**

Representative of IMO,  
Representative of Ipieca,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Friends from the Media,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I bring you warm greetings from my Minister, Hon Dr. Kwaku Afriyie, who could not be with you today due to the COP 27 events and the key role being played by MESTI in coordinating Ghana's climate change programmes. So, I welcome you to Accra where some of you are already very familiar. From the records, I have seen you have held some of your meetings here before, so I am hoping that we have in this list of participants some of those who were here 7 years ago.

I must admit however, that it is a long time ago but, I guess other events could equally have brought you back to Ghana. To gain your maximum attention for this very important meeting and the full cooperation and participation of all of you, I wish to assure you that you are in safe hands while here in Ghana. The people are very friendly and supportive and would offer your assistance as far as possible. You are however encouraged to also be vigilant and avoid suspicious engagements. There are no strict restrictions to the observation of the COVID protocols but we encourage you to keep to the good and less cumbersome ones so we can continue to curtail the virus.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I am happy to learn that this project and meetings have been going on since 2006. Indeed looking at events in recent times and the massive drift towards the avoidance of the use of fossil fuel, you may wish to consider making these meetings more frequent than before so that your programmes and objectives of preparing to avoid and safeguard eventualities and oil spills could be enhanced and provide the maximum assurance to our commitment to avoiding any disaster or any possible negative impact that our petroleum resource could have on climate and its related impact on humanity.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen I strongly believe that every resource given to us by nature (God) was for our good, and so is petroleum. It is a very essential mineral with many uses that collectively support life and development. I am sure by now there is no doubt about this; as we all, as nations, organizations, or individuals have witnessed the contribution of petroleum (in its multiple forms) to our national development and socio-economic growth.

Notwithstanding the many uses and the usefulness of petroleum (fossil fuels), it has also dominated recent global discourse in its contribution to carbon emissions and for that matter



global warming. It has been argued if not established that the use of these fuels contributes significantly to the global environmental challenge of climate change and its attendant global warming. As a country and signatory to the global measures to reduce the negative impact of global warming, Ghana (and your countries I believe) is in full support of the decisions of COP26 and earlier efforts to move away from fossil fuel and especially as used in vehicles, as well as the bigger energy transition initiatives to reduce the negative effects of the use of fossil fuels on mankind.

Nonetheless, for many of our countries as we now stand none of the new energy sources can totally replace petroleum. Hence, in the next foreseeable future, we would still have to depend to a large extent on petroleum especially oil and gas. The discussions on loss assets and its effect on developing countries that have discovered oil and their contribution to the national GDP are at infant stages. If many of us would be able to move away from this product, it will surely take some few more years. For that matter, many African countries including Ghana may continue to explore for petroleum in the foreseeable future to meet its urgent developmental needs. It is therefore highly essential and critical that we come together as a team with common interest, mindset, and agenda to examine the major environmental challenges associated with petroleum exploration, including oil spills, gas flaring and all other attributes to the mining that affect or contribute to climate impacts and design good measures and solutions to avoid them or minimize its occurrence.

It is for this reason that the government of Ghana supports entirely what the GIWACAF project is formulated to do.

It is a very essential and noble objective to design a project that aims at seeking interventions to address possible oil spill and ensuring readiness and preparedness to response to any such accidents. Historical events of major oil spills are still fresh in our minds, as though they occurred only yesterday. Many of us were witnesses to, the 2010 horrific incident of the *Deepwater Horizon* in the Gulf of Mexico with its devastating effects on the ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico. Events leading to and after the *Deepwater Horizon* are also reminders that oil spills can happen anytime if nations relax their watch, response, and preparedness.

**DISTINGUISH LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;** accidents are accidents and as such despite all efforts and preventive systems we all try to install or build, disasters do and may still happen. The key watchword in our mantra has therefore been, PREPAREDNESS, and the vehicle for dealing with oil spill disasters have been the National Oil Spill Contingency Plans (NOSCPs) and its associated policies and guidelines on dispersants and management of oily waste! Critical to the success of every response effort is also the Environmental Sensitivity Atlases. These must be developed and updated to reflect the dynamics of our societies, so that in the event of any accident, nations would be able to take the right decisions and protect the environment and reduce effect or contributions to climate change.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;** I am happy that for these and many others the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and its partner IPIECA have taken upon themselves and been organizing these bi-annual regional conferences under the flagship project, GI WACAF, since its inception dating back to 2006. Let me take this opportunity to say thank you to IMO and IPIECA. Do not give up.

While you are here today and for the next three days ahead of you, I know you are going to look back to see what have been achieved and then also plan for the future as to what else

needs to be done under this laudable project. I wish you well and call on all participants to be engaging.

Ladies and gentlemen, you will attest to the fact that such Regional Conferences provide a very good opportunity for networking, peer reviews, cross-fertilization of ideas from the industry and the public institutions from the participating countries, in this case the 22 countries. This, as we all know would enable our countries to work together with one voice, in moving our common concern and objective of preparedness and early response ahead and to a much more appreciable level within the Region, and by that give a positive hearing to our quest to continue to explore and use our petroleum resources to develop our nations until we can afford other alternatives.

You have done well in the past and to date, but remember, since disaster preparedness is not a onetime event but a continuous process, as member countries we cannot rest on our oars. We must keep the boat afloat all the time! The Government of Ghana is ever ready to support efforts in regional integration and collaboration, that addresses our common concerns. That is why, as an important stakeholder in this regional effort, we have accepted to host again this unique event this year.

Be reminded once again that Our gathering, here in Accra, (at the time the whole world is in Egypt to talk climate change) is an effort to find out whether collectively we are on the right track. This will be the task for the next four (4) days. I believe that this assembly here are the right minds and people for the job! For the countries and the enterprises that you represent thought that you were the right persons for the assignment, and I want to trust their judgement I hope you will also not disappoint me. You cannot afford to let your countries down by not fully participating in this event either. I am looking forward to the rapporteur's report.

Once again distinguished ladies and gentlemen, Ghana is a beautiful, warm and friendly country as some of you might have known and experienced some seven years ago, there have been many new and good changes to our beauty and hospitality so even if you have been here already you are still invited to explore further Accra, maybe extend your stay and visit other parts of the country and enjoy the hospitality of Ghanaians and our spicy cuisines, but don't forget your assignments.

On that note, I wish to declare the GI WACAF REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2022 opened.

Thank you.

## Annex 8 – Speech from Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa

### Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA)

Sylvia Asana Dauda Owu, WIMOWCA President

The Women in Maritime of West and Central Africa (WIMOWCA) is delighted to be invited to speak at the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI-WACAF)

Who are We?

WIMOWCA is a sub-regional body established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to champion the promotion and empowerment of women in the maritime industry in the sub-region. WIMOWCA is the 8<sup>th</sup> of such Regional Associations set up by the IMO such as Women in Maritime Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA), Pacific Women in Maritime (PAC-WIMA), Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC), etc. and presently the youngest following its inauguration and launch by the IMO Secretary General on July 23, 2021.

WIMOWCA stands to advocate gender equality in the maritime sector and pushes for increase in the percentage of women in senior management cadre in the maritime sector. This is in line with IMO strategic approach towards enhancing the contribution of women as key maritime stakeholders by incorporating gender dimensions into its maritime/shipping policies in line with SDG 1, 5 and 14.

At the time WIMOWCA was conceived in Ghana in 2019, the Interim Executive Council held several meetings to draw up its 5 years Strategic Action Plan aligned to SDGs 1, 5 and 14 which is pivotal on how our women will galvanized to ensure a sustainable maritime industry.

The leadership of WIMOWCA consists of seasoned maritime executives drawn from the Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries in the West and Central Africa. This is to ensure inclusiveness.

We have since our inauguration in 2021 grown from strength to strength with national chapters now existing in 13 countries. Efforts are also being made to create more national chapters in the sub region. In recognition of our existence, WIMOWCA joined the Focus Group for Joint Evaluating and Audit on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women carried out by the IMO. Our Women continue to benefit from the Maritime SheEO Leadership program and other capacity building program in the industry to up their skills and effectively contribute to the growing discussions on sustainability.

In 2022, WIMOWCA fully participated in all IMO and UN maritime celebrations, such as the newly inaugurated Women in Maritime Day (18May), Day of the Seafarers (25th June), World Oceans Day and World Maritime Day (September 28, among others.

The leadership and members of WIMOWCA have continued to act as resource persons at notable maritime events, organized by both public and private sectors, bringing to bear their vast knowledge on topical and emerging trends in the industry. Our women are no doubt

breaking barriers, shattering glass ceilings and riding high amidst all odds as we continue to advocate for gender equality for a sustainable maritime growth.

WIMOWCA is set to have its 1st Annual General Meeting and Conference fully supported by the IMO and hosted by the Senegalese government from 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

We are aware that the GI-WACAF project since its establishment in 2006 continues to work at strengthening the capabilities of 22 African countries in accordance with the provisions set out in International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation (OPRC 1990). GI WACAF has thus emerged to become a project of technical cooperation that benefits every actor in the region. It has no doubt enhanced the level of preparedness and response to oil spill in the region, contributing immensely to the protection of the marine environment.

Of particular interest to us in WIMOWCA is the 3 steps systematic approach of preparation and response to oil spill embarked upon by GI WACAF, namely;

- Establishing the legislative and regulatory framework for effective national preparedness and response system;
- Encouraging countries to set up policies, processes and tools to implement the legislative framework;
- Implementation of database and trans-boundary cooperation needed to ensure successful approach.

WIMOWCA is even more delighted to note the level of commitment of women in the GI-WACAF project from the level of the International Maritime Organization down to the implementation level. We only hope that in no distant future, other women from the 22 African countries would also have the opportunity to join the ship that sails the GI WICAF project.

WIMOWCA currently enjoys observer's status with the Abuja Memorandum of Understanding of West and Central African Region (Abuja MoU). Consequently, we will be participating at the 12th Port State Control Meeting of Abuja MoU in The Gambia from 11-12 November 2022.

We are also working on obtaining similar status with the Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa (MOWCA).

We therefore look forward to being recognized by GI-WACAF as developmental partners and it is on this note that we also call on maritime women here both in government and non-governmental organization to come on-board and identify with WIMOWCA.

We wish you all successful deliberations and good conference.

Thank you.

## Annex 9 – Closing remarks, IMO

**IMO Closing Remarks  
9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Biennial Conference  
Accra, Ghana, 7 November 2022  
Will Griffiths, OPRC/HNS Officer, IMO**

Ladies and gentlemen, Mesdames et Messieurs, senhoras e senhores.

Central to the OPRC Convention is the heavy emphasis on cooperation and mutual aid between countries, and between government and industry and I think this is exactly what we have achieved this week.

The continued industry presence and enthusiasm at this GI WACAF biennial conference, has, after three challenging years, continued to emphasise the uniqueness and key successes of this initiative.

In the discussions that we have had this week, particularly the updates of activities from both governmental and industry partners, it shone through that despite the challenges of the last three years, how much progress has continued to be made and that has only been possible because of the importance placed on the important topic by all those here today.

Of course, our collective success is the result of many months and hours of preparation and work from the dedicated GI WACAF team and our longstanding partner in this project, Ipieca. To this end I would like to extend my special thanks to Anaïs, Lindsay, Rim, Katherine and Hannah Fakouri who many of you will have had correspondence with and unfortunately couldn't be here this week as it is they undertook the bulk of the organization both before and during the conference. Supported of course by the wider GI WACAF steering committee.

Thanks to Anatole and the other members of the steering committee for the continued strategic input that guides and supports the project from the industry side. Notwithstanding all the preparations made in London, I really must also extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana for the effort and time they have invested in bringing us together in this beautiful setting and for being such excellent hosts.

Also thanks to all the experts who attended and helped us to deliver these sessions in this 9th GI WACAF Regional Conference here in Accra, Ghana.

Three years ago, the closing speech stated that If there is one message we should leave with, as we all prepare to head back to our own countries, it was that no matter how big our small your countries and economies are, and notwithstanding how stretched resources are and how much demand there is on your time when you return home, progress in preparing for oil spills is incremental and you are the agents that can drive progress and change within your governments, which has been demonstrated time and time again when we come together and you are able to share your respective experiences and progress made. As we continue to navigate the “new normal”, these words are even more true today. We must remember that being prepared is a journey and not a destination.

We, of course, as IMO together with industry, remain committed to assisting you and supporting these efforts. With that, I will stop here, but not before thanking you all for your participation and contributions this week, and to wish you a safe journey home. I will not say goodbye, but rather see you soon, as we hope to see you all again not only in two years' time for the next conference but before then as we continue to work together on this journey.

Thank you.



## Annex 10 – Closing remarks, Ipieca

**Ipieca Closing Remarks  
9<sup>th</sup> GI WACAF Biennial Conference  
Accra, Ghana, 7 November 2022  
Anatole Cramer, TE**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of GI WACAF will soon conclude. It is our great honor to spend the past three days with friends from different countries. With your participation, the conference successfully finished all its sessions. On behalf of IPIECA and IMO, I would like to extend our highest respect and most sincere gratitude to the joint efforts of all the participating leaders, experts, guests and representatives, and our most cordial congratulations to the success of this Conference on Oil Spill Preparedness and Response!

As the conference ends, I believe we all have the same feeling that people are persistently exploring the dream of a high-level preparedness to oil spills of the whole Atlantic coastline of Africa. During these four days, we see the possibility of dreams becoming reality.

During the three days' meeting, we had in-depth discussions and communications on four major topics: the highlights of the last biennium, the national preparedness, the joint engagement between governments and industry, and finally an outlook on the upcoming biennium.

We have had the chance to listen to some remarkable speakers from various horizons, institutions, companies, and organizations. We have tried to alternate some academic and technical presentations with interactive sessions, and I hope that you have all been able to take away some precious knowledge, that you have strengthened your network, and above all that you had some good fun!

We look forward to meeting you all in your respective countries during the upcoming activities of GI WACAF, and in two years from now for the 10<sup>th</sup> regional conference of GI WACAF.

Many thanks to all and have a safe trip back home!

## Annex 11 – Closing remarks, EPA

### 9<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR WEST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (GI WACAF), LA BEACH HOTEL, ACCRA, GHANA, 07-10 NOVEMBER 2022

#### CLOSING SPEECH BY THE DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, (EPA) – ING. KOJO AGBENOR-EFUNAM

Representatives of IMO, Representatives of Ipieca, Distinguished Delegates, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, I got a text message from the IMO Regional Coordinator for West Africa, Capt. Dallas Laryea, to call him back when I am free. That text message led to the discussion of the possibility of Ghana hosting the 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of the Global Initiative for West, Central and Southern Africa (GI WACAF). Having hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Regional Conference successfully in 2015, I didn't see the possibility of an unsuccessful hosting of the 9<sup>th</sup> edition. I, therefore, agreed with my good friend, Capt. Dallas, that Ghana would be in position to host it.

With all the intermediary events concluded, we gathered here at the Labadi Beach Hotel, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, to commence the conference as planned. Our main aim was to work through the planned activities until 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, when the conference will come to an end.

On that first day, a representative of the Executive Director of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the host organization, Mrs. Esi Nerquaye-Tetteh, Director of Environmental Quality, Standards, Chemicals and Laboratory Services of the EPA welcomed us and tasked us to look back to energize us for the future. Opening remarks from IMO representative, Capt. Dallas, and IPIECA representative, Anatole Crammer, were given as a foretaste of what the delegates and the participants were to expect during the conference. Mrs. Cynthia Asare-Bediako, the Chief Director, of the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), on behalf of the Minister, then, in her keynote address, charged us to keep our eyes on our objectives for gathering here, but to also find time to explore Accra.

**DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES AND PARTICIPANTS**, the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 that we looked forward to on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 is here, and it is now **3:30pm** by my watch. Looking back, from a few minutes ago to Monday when we gathered here, I note the following:

1. Enhanced Networking (i.e., old friends met again, and perhaps for the last time under the GIWACAF umbrella, new ones have also emerged to keep the network torch burning)
2. New ideas came up. That is, ideas to help improve the GIWACAF activities have emerged:
  - a. From project to partnership

- b. Use of online tools (webinars and other tools to augment the face-to-face meetings) for trainings
  - c. Visibility of GIWACAF (GIWACAF should be seen beyond delegates and participants of Regional Conferences)
3. Development of Action Plans (Sets of action plans have been developed for implementation during the next biennium).
  4. The objectives of the conference have been achieved through tremendous information and experience sharing.

Looking back again, as a GIWACAF family, we can say it is quite refreshing to start the face-to-face meeting again, after the dreadful COVID-19 kept all of us locked down in our various countries for the past three years after the 8<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference in Cape Town, South Africa in 2019.

Therefore, it would have been very appropriate for us to stay a bit longer than the four days. However, the good book (the Bible) says, “to every purpose there is time and judgment” (Eccl. 8:6). We came here for a specific purpose, and we have scheduled a time for it. It is now left for us to make that judgment of staying longer than the schedule time.

To help us make that judgment meaningfully, I know and believe that there is no place on this earth that is better than home. If you agree with me on that, then give me a big round of applause. That response shows that we are all yearning to go home and see our loved ones, despite the good time we are having here.

Hence, on behalf of the Government of Ghana, the Minister responsible for environment, the Chief Director of MESTI, the Executive Director and staff of EPA, the Ghanaian agencies represented here, the people of Ghana, the hotel staff, and on my own behalf, I wish to thank IMO, IPIECA, and the GIWACAF team for choosing Ghana to host this 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference. We say a big thank you! To all the facilitators, delegates and participants, my team and I would like to thank you tremendously for making us host you successfully here in Accra.

To those of you who had some challenges regarding your visa acquisition process and the travels, we are glad that you finally made it here and we pray that your return journey will be smoother with no incidents until you reach home safely.

On behalf of the Government of Ghana, I therefore wish to declare this conference closed. Have a Safe Flight! Have a Safe Trip! Stay Safe! Until we meet again another time. Thank you! Merci! Obrigado! Ye da wo ase! Akpe na mi kaka!

## Annex 12 – Work group outcomes

The main outcomes of the work groups held on the second and third day are the following:

### WG1

- The concept of “Project” does not adhere, today, to the ambitions of the GI WACAF – the IMO and Ipieca iterated that they see GIWACAF as becoming a facilitator for transboundary co-operation and knowledge sharing and, as such, is envisaged to have a place in the long term and all partners remain committed.
- The need to highlight expertise within in the region, by enhancing GI WACAF communication means and website to allow proper follow up and facilitated dialogue between stakeholders. This could potentially lead to regional directory.
- Hybrid sessions were seen as bringing good value for the right project. Good feedback was received on the remote legal assistance; however, it was stated that even for this activity, a day in person is beneficial to build relationships and ensure full understanding between all stakeholders
- There was appetite for more novel topics (eg. Oil spill modelling)
- Focus on transboundary activities was a very common and popular suggestion
- Increased visibility of planned activities

### WG2

- Delegates requested more training on the RETOS tool and to facilitate a RETOS assessment (there was some discussion of how can be achieved, including both in-person and remote options).
- Participants recognized RETOS (Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills) assessments as a potential approach to evaluate their preparedness and response capacities (whether from industry or government) but highlighted the need for more training on the RETOS tool and to facilitate a RETOS assessment. Some delegates felt that for the tool to be used successfully, there needed to be investment by administrations in ensuring personnel with comprehensive knowledge and understanding within their authorities which ensures its proper application.
- Promoting the web-based version was appreciated, as it is likely to facilitate uptake of the tool due to increased user-friendliness.

### WG3

- The use of IMS was recognised as a good mechanism to ensure successful operational communication. Some of the challenges highlighted were the rotation (navy, CG etc) or turnover of personnel and therefore the need for regular training.
- Concerns were also expressed regarding the political interferences during a real incident and how it disrupted the command structure.
- Media management and communication was identified as an area requiring training.
- More generally, requests for training of local experts were expressed.

### WG4

- Maintain a database of contacts / key players understanding the role and responsibilities of all stakeholders, in particular with respect to the control requirements of facilities.
- Importance of communications in standardised and pre-agreed formats relevant to the stakeholder target, which needs to be alerted, notified or informed. In the same way, set-up private communication groups via applications such as LinkedIn, WhatsApp, or others to allow the sharing of information early on following an incident. This could lead to site visits jointly between competent authorities and industry, and/or the organisation of regular exercise to systemize the sharing of information and verify / test the sharing procedures.
- Put contracts in place with specialised entities to quickly obtain satellite imagery including interpretation
- Maintain local administration offices to facilitate and accelerate the mobilisation of government representatives in industry crisis management structures

The main outcomes of the Industry workshop were the following:

#### Preparedness challenges & improvements

- Small Oil & Gaz (O&G) Production companies should be brought into the discussion to have the as their incidents can impact other (bigger) operators' activities and Oil Spill Response (OSR) capabilities.
- Share available free tools for OSR preparedness and sheen monitoring with smaller O&G companies to ensure they comply with the minimum OSRP standards à many requests for sharing satellite imagery on a platform.
- Conduct more joined (Industry – Government) training and exercises.
- GIWACAF should promote regular verifications of NOSCP for plans implementation/ operationalization

### Response challenges & improvements

- Reinforce Sub Regional protocols for transboundary Oil Spill Contingency Plans

### GI WACAF Evolution

- Promote IMO Dispersant Guidelines, as some countries still do not have a clear dispersant guideline
- Request for more meetings to be organized between the conferences, and in general to enhance exchanges between industry representatives