

MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
67th session
Agenda item 15

MEPC 67/15/2
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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT**

**Thematic priorities for the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP)
for the 2016-2017 biennium**

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document invites the Committee to consider and agree on the marine environment related thematic priorities for inclusion in the ITCP covering the 2016-2017 biennium
<i>Strategic direction:</i>	3.5
<i>High-level action:</i>	3.5.1
<i>Planned output:</i>	3.5.1.3
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 6
<i>Related documents:</i>	C 109/3/1; C 110/5; TC 61/16; TC 63/14 and TC 64/14

1 The Technical Cooperation Committee (TC), at its sixty-third session (10 to 12 July 2013), approved the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) covering the 2014-2015 biennium (TC 63/14, paragraph 3.26), which is reflected in the High-level Action Plan of the Organization and its related thematic priorities, as contained in resolution A.1061(28).

Proposed thematic priorities of the ITCP for 2016-2017

2 The main needs of the countries/regions have not changed substantially and therefore, the nine thematic priorities presented for consideration by the Committee at MEPC 62 would continue to apply to most of the regions. However, in the context of the Secretary-General's review and reform initiative regarding technical cooperation and the related Council document C 109/3/1, a limited number of high-priority technical cooperation themes have been selected to provide for a more effective delivery to maximize the impact of the ITCP.

3 To facilitate the work of the Committee, the Secretariat has selected four thematic priorities related to the protection of the marine environment for the 2016-2017 biennium, as set out in the annex.

4 As in previous biennia, the technical assistance activities for the forthcoming biennium, in accordance with the thematic priorities, will be undertaken by the Secretariat following a similar methodology and approach, in cooperation with Member States, international and regional organizations and the industries. Correspondingly, TC 64 was reminded that the Secretariat was exploring a mechanism proposed by the Secretary-General that would take into account the information provided through the Country Maritime Profiles (CMPs) and the outcome of audits as inputs to programming technical assistance to facilitate the identification of capacity-building needs of Member States and the tailored programming of the ITCP (TC 64/14, paragraphs 7.3 and 7.4).

5 It should be noted that TC 64 considered information on CMPs which provided a first brief analysis of the data which Member States had communicated to IMO in relation to their CMPs and took decisions as set out in document TC 64/14, paragraphs 13.6 and 13.7.

Action requested of the Committee

6 The Committee is invited to note the information contained in this document and approve the selected thematic priorities relating to the marine environment as set out in the annex.

ANNEX

**THEMATIC PRIORITIES RELATING TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
FOR INCLUSION IN THE ITCP COVERING THE 2016-2017 BIENNIUM**

- 1 Assisting countries in implementing the MARPOL Convention and more specifically in providing port reception facilities, establishing of Special Areas or PSSAs, introducing waste management and in the uniform application of Annex VI on energy efficiency measures for ships.
 - 2 Assisting countries in implementing the OPRC Convention and the OPRC-HNS Protocol and enhancing regional cooperation in marine pollution preparedness, response and cooperation as well as addressing aspects of the implementation of the relevant international regimes on liability and compensation for oil and HNS pollution damage.
 - 3 Strengthening national and regional capacity and fostering regional cooperation for the ratification and effective implementation of the Hong Kong Convention on Ship Recycling, the BWM Convention and ships' biofouling guidelines.
 - 4 Assisting countries in ratifying and implementing the London Protocol on Prevention of Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter.
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