



REPORT
ON
IMO OPRC TRAINING COURSE, LEVEL 2
SUPERVISORS / ON-SCENE COMMANDERS
FROM
THE SOUTH ASIAN REGION

11 TO 15 NOVEMBER 2002

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA



INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

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Title of the Course:	SAS / IMO Regional OPRC Training Course (IMO Level 2 Course for Supervisors / On-Scene Commanders).
Host:	South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Venue:	Hotel Colombo Hilton, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Date:	11 to 15 November 2002
Type:	Regional Training Course for the Coastal States of the South Asian Seas Region
Organized by:	IMO and South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme under IMO Global Initiative and in close co-operation with the Government of Sri Lanka.
Participating countries:	Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
Number of participants:	23 students, 4 Staff members of SACEP and 5 Lecturers
IMO Project Number and Budget line:	TC 03 RAS/97/305 and D 013 03 RAS/99/784
Exclusive Summary:	
<p>The course was aimed at providing selected national staff with the knowledge and skills required by Supervisors or On-Scene Commanders designated by governments and other authorities or the oil industry.</p> <p>The course provided information on issues related to national and regional oil spill preparedness, response and co-operation, including but not limited to contingency planning, response management and organization, response policy, oil spill behavior, fate and effects, assessment of oil spills, shoreline clean-up, transfer, storage and disposal of oil, evidence gathering and documentation, media relations, claims and compensation and termination of a response operation.</p> <p>The participants, representing governmental authorities and agencies, had the right background knowledge and experiences to receive maximum benefit of the presentations and discussions. This was reflected during the course by many relevant questions asked and issues discussed.</p> <p>The course was well received and participants expressed the view that the level was relevant and the outcome was satisfactory. 21 participants (91.3%) returned the Seminar Evaluation Forms. Of these 85.0% indicated that the goals of the lectures were "Fully met" and that 14.8% of the lectures met its goals "In Part". 0.2% indicated few lectures "Did not meet".</p>	

The Course Director was asked to inform IMO and the Responsible Authorities of the participating States accordingly and to invite IMO to continue its support on the development of sustainable regional and national capabilities to respond to oil spills within the SAS Region.

The representatives of Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan asked for IMO's support in national Level 2 or 3 Courses during 2003. SACEP invited IMO to consider another regional training course, Level 2 or 3 as appropriate during 2003. SACEP also recalled that IMO had earlier committed itself for a number of training activities related to national and regional implementation and enforcement of MARPOL 73/78.

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1. COURSE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The preparatory work in organising the seminar was done by the Marine Environment Division, IMO in close co-operation with South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) which was responsible for all practical and logistical arrangements in Sri Lanka.

Mr. John Østergaard, Senior Adviser on Marine Pollution, Marine Environment Division of IMO acted as Course Director and prepared the final report.

The IMO OPRC Level 2 Model Course was planned and implemented in compliance with the IMO Guidelines and followed in general the programme suggested by the Model Course as amended to ensure compliancy with regional and local requirements.

The training course was conducted at the Colombo Hilton Hotel in Colombo. The facilities were absolutely satisfactory and the service rendered by the Hotel staff and the SACEP Secretariat was excellent and contributed widely to the success of the course.

To facilitate the participants' knowledge on practical oil spill contingency planning and the use of equipment, a field trip to the Colombo Port Authority and its Oil Spill Response Centre and response vessels based in Colombo Port was organized on Thursday morning. The field trip also included a sight-seeing of the Port on board one of the port's tug boats. During the visit the Port's staff gave a comprehensive presentation of their oil spill response equipment and explained in detail the local oil spill response plan and its operation.

Documentation for each presentation was provided by lecturers, copied by the SACEP Secretariat and distributed to all the participants. In addition, the standard IMO documentation package was handed out to each of the participants.

SACEP funded the costs regarding the invitation of lecturers, publication of the documentations and travel expense for the selected trainees from the five participating countries. SACEP also organized the formalities relating to issuing of visas for all participants and lecturers as appropriate.

2. PARTICIPANTS

32 persons, including five lecturers and four staffs from the SACEP Secretariat (in part) attended the course. The trainees came from the SACEP Member States: Bangladesh (4), India (4), Maldives (4), Pakistan (4) and Sri Lanka (7). The major part of the trainees came from their respective national authorities responsible for accidental marine pollution preparedness and response. All costs, including travel expenses and stay of all the participants excluding participants from the host country were organized by SACEP and funded by the IMO TC Fund.

A list of participants is attached as Annex I.

3. LECTURERS

The following persons participated as lecturers and covered the following topics.

Ms. Caryn Anderson, International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF)

Topics:

- Shoreline clean-up (10)
- Transfer, storage and disposal (12)
- Liability, claims and compensation (16)
- Response deactivation (17)
- Case studies of recent spills
- Exercise

Mr. Martin Willman, Oil Spill Response Ltd. / International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)

Topics:

- Oil spill behaviour, fate and effects (4)
- Containment, protection and recovery of oil (7)
- In-situ burning, bioremediation and absorbants (8)
- Site safety (11)
- Case studies of recent spills
- Exercise

Mr. Mark Lim, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, Singapore

Topic:

- Operations planning (6) and oil spill modeling
- Command, control, communications and information (15)
- Post incident debriefing (18)
- Case studies of recent spills
- Exercise

Mr. Chris Richards, Singapore Oil Spill Response Corporation, Singapore

Topic:

- Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organization - National level (3.1)
- Spill assessment (5)
- Use of dispersants (9)
- Case studies of recent spills
- Exercise

Mr. John Østergaard, Marine Environment Division, IMO

Topics:

- Opening and closing ceremony
- Course introduction (1)
- Overview of spill response (2)
- Contingency planning, response management and organization - regional Level (3.2)
- Media relations (13)
- Evidence gathering and documentation (14)
- Course review and debriefing
- Exercise

The Table Top exercise held on Friday morning was the third test of a possible standard Level 2 exercise prepared and developed by IMO. An introduction to the exercise was held as small simulation exercises on Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon. The exercises were well received by the participants and created a lot of activities and discussions. It was the view of those who commented on the exercises, that in a practical and operational manner, the exercises addressed most of the issues covered by the course. The exercises were recommended for use as standard exercises at future OPRC Level 2 Courses. All the lecturers took part in conducting and debriefing of the exercises.

During the Monday morning session from 11:30 to 12:30, a representative of each of the five participating countries was invited to present a brief status on contingency planning at the national level. The following information was provided:

Bangladesh:

The National Department of Shipping is designated as the National Responsible Authority. The Port Authorities and the Bangladesh Coast Guard are active parties in the planning process. However, a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan has not yet been finalized.

Financial support has been provided by Asian Development Bank and Oil Industry Association of Japan for the development of a draft National Plan based on a tiered response system and the IMO Guidelines on Oil Spill Contingency Planning. All major ports and oil terminals are instructed to develop local plans compatible with the draft National Plan. All relevant departments of the Government are involved in the planning process.

The representative of Bangladesh invited IMO to support the finalization of the National Plan. As a first step, an IMO OPRC Level 2 or 3 Course to be held during 2003 might be considered.

India

The National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan was developed and adopted in 1993. The Plan is very action oriented and support the "Polluters Pay Principle". The National Plan is maintained during several exercises every year and has been tested during live oil spills. Experiences gained during exercises and live oil spills are included in the National Plan as appropriate.

Maldives

With more than 5,000 reefs, 1,192 islands and only a total land area of approximately 300 square kilometres, the national oil spill contingency planning process is a huge task. The passing tanker syndrome and inter island transport of oil products are considered as the main risks of oil pollution. Ministry of Environment in close co-operation with Ministry of Transport and the National Coast Guard has been tasked with the drafting of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan. The drafting work is making slow progress, due to lack of the necessary expertise in oil spill contingency planning. The Maldives would welcome any assistance and expertise from outside. IMO was invited to consider supporting a national OPRC Level 2 or 3 Course to be held as soon as possible during 2003.

Pakistan

Pakistan has 909 kilometers of coastline and has declared a 200 nautical miles Exclusive Economical Zone. The main risk is constituted by passing tankers and oil transport to and from ports and oil terminals. The country has experienced five medium size oil spills in the past.

The necessary national legislation is in place. By this legislation responsibility for oil spill response has been given to the two major ports i.e. Port of Karachi and Port of Kasihim. The two ports are responsible for response to oil spills which occur inside the port areas that includes a 12 nm zone next to the ports. Outside those two zones, the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (MSA) is responsible for oil spill response. The two ports are partially equipped with response equipment to address the most frequent spills.

MSA has been tasked with the development of a national plan. However, such a plan has not yet been adopted. The new plan will be developed on a tiered response system, taking into consideration the Guidelines on Contingency Planning developed by IMO.

A National Marine Environment Co-ordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Department of Environment has now been established to finalize and implement the National Plan. This Committee has close co-operation with a Financial and Logistic Committee. To facilitate the work of the Co-ordination Committee, IMO was invited to provide support as a national OPRC Level 2 or 3 Course to be held as soon as possible during 2003.

High risk spill areas and Environmental Sensitivity Areas have been identified. Local exercises are held monthly and major national exercises are held twice a year. A National Marine Pollution Control Centre with 24 hours operation has been established. In a spill situation this Centre will have access to resources from all national Authorities, as appropriate.

Finally, the representative of Pakistan gave a short brief on the response to the latest oil spills.

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has adopted necessary national legislation and is Party to all the relevant international Conventions related to oil spill response. A first National Oil Spill Contingency Plan was developed with assistance from IMO during the late nineties.

The Sri Lanka Marine Pollution Prevention Authority is responsible for contingency planning at the national level. The national Plan is developed as a tiered response plan based on the IMO Guidelines on Oil Spill Contingency Planning. The National Plan identifies all national Authorities who have a role to play in case of an oil spill.

With financial support and expertise from Norway, a review and modernization of the National Plan has been initiated and is expected to be finalized during 2003.

Only the Port of Colombo has oil spill response equipment for response to oil spills inside the port area. Unfortunately, so far, a sustainable national system for funding and maintaining of a national response capability has not been identified.

4. BRIEF SUMMARY

Course Programme

The Programme was initiated on Monday, 11 November at 08:45 and ended on Friday, 15 November at 15:00. The Programme was organized with one morning session from 08:30 to 12:30 and an afternoon session from 14:00 to 17:30 with coffee/tea breaks at 10:30 and 16:00. The Programme complied with the IMO OPRC Level 2 Model Course standard programme, taking into consideration proposals for local requirements and suggestions.

During the morning of Thursday, 14 November, a field trip to the Port of Colombo Authority and its oil spill response centre and oil spill response vessels was organized by SACEP and Port of Colombo. The participants were introduced to the oil spill response equipment and was given a comprehensive briefing on the local oil spill contingency planning process. In addition, the field trip went on a sight seeing trip around the Port of Colombo onboard a harbour tug. The field trip was much appreciated by all participants.

The Course Programme is attached as Annex 2.

Opening of the Seminar

Mr. Mahboob Elahi, Director General, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) opened the seminar and welcomed everybody to the Training Course. He informed that this training course was the first regional training activity to be initiated by SACEP. The training course had been agreed to by the SACEP Focal Point Meeting in 2001 and was included in the SAS Work Programme for the biennium 2002-2003, and was endorsed by the Interministerial Meeting held in Colombo in June 2002 and should be seen as the direct consequence of the finalization of the draft Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan and its associated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the SACEP region. He recalled that the SACEP region was daily exposed to both the economical and environmental consequences of major marine oil spills due to the fact that some of the world most busy oil tanker routes were situated close to the coasts of most of the SACEP Member States. He therefore considered the training course as timely and very important for the development of the national response capability in each of the States, as well as a catalyst for improved regional co-operation and understanding. Finally, he expressed the appreciation of support from IMO, IPIECA, ITOPF and Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore. He appreciated UNEP's support and the funding provided by IMO that covered the costs of the training course. He confirmed the SACEP support to the present course and wished it all success.

Mr. Thosapala Hewage, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka, on behalf of the Minister of Environment & Natural Resources, also welcomed the participants and the lecturers to Colombo and wished all a pleasant stay. He recalled that all of the SACEP Member States were exposed to the serious consequences of marine oil spills. This situation was fully recognized by the Government of Sri Lanka, which caused Parliament to adopt the necessary national legislation in compliance with international Conventions. The OPRC 1990 Convention provided an excellent foundation for international co-operation and as required by this Convention, Sri Lanka, had during the last decade, developed a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan that is now under review. He was of the view that the present regional training course should be considered as a first step to implement a closer co-operation on response to major oil spills within the SAS region.

Mr. John Østergaard, the Course Director, gave the opening speech on behalf of IMO. He welcomed everybody to the training course and thanked the Government of Sri Lanka for hosting the course and for all the assistance provided so far. He also expressed appreciation and sincere thanks to the SACEP Secretariat for preparing and organising all the logistics for the training course. He welcomed the support from the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore under the umbrella of the IMO / Singapore MoU and the continuous support from the industry, in this case the professional support provided by IPIECA and ITOPF. He emphasized the importance of the training course as a means to facilitate sustainability and the further development of regional co-operation within the SAS region and the intentions of IMO to continue its support, not only at the regional level but also to each of the individual States of the region as appropriate.

Honourable Mr. Mahinda Wijesekera, Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources, Government of Sri Lanka, recalled the importance of the resources of the oceans and coastal zones for the livelihood to all the SAS countries but also the risk to those resources and the welfare of the populations caused by the major shipping routes in the vicinity of the SAS countries. He emphasised the importance of international regulations and co-operation and in particular of the SACEP Member States becoming Parties to MARPOL 73/78 and OPRC 1990. At the national level, Sri Lanka had established the National Marine Pollution Authority in 1991 as the national Authority responsible for all matters related to the protection of the marine environment. The Minister informed that Sri Lanka for the year 2003 had established a new national programme, which included a sub-programme for environment sensitive mapping and clean-up of the coastal environment. A separate sub-programme would focus on reception facilities in ports for ship-generated wastes. He stressed the urgent need for national co-operation on protection of the environment to facilitate further national social and economical development. Finally, he welcomed the regional training course as a means to develop national as well as regional capacity on response to marine pollution incidents and wished the training course all possible success.

Mr. Prasantha Dias Abeyegunawardene, Deputy Director of Programmes, SACEP delivered the Vote of Thanks and emphasised the great interest from SACEP Member States and the continuous need for assistance and support to the SAS region from international experts and organizations.

5. COMMENTS ON EACH LECTURE AND OTHER EVENTS

Introduction (Session 1)

By Mr. John Østergaard

The Introduction lecture provided information on administrative, practical and logistical arrangements for the course, as well as it set out the general objectives of the Course. It also provided for a general presentation of the lecturers as well as the Participants. The lesson emphasized that only by good co-operation and active participation would it be possible to meet the objectives of the course.

Overview of Spill Response (Session 2)

By Mr. John Østergaard

The lesson provided information on the key elements and challenges of an oil spill response and the Supervisor / On –Scene Commander's (OSC) role, responsibilities and the actions they must take during the response. It emphasized the need for contingency planning and the interests and role of the parties to an oil spill, such as environmental organizations, media representatives, and how they might impact the role of the OSC.

Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organization – National level (Session 3.1)

By Mr. Christopher Richards

The lesson described the purpose and main types of national contingency plans, including the key components and main components to be considered in connection with the development of the plan. It described the initial response actions and suggestion for a basic response organization and how this organization might be expanded in case of a major incident. It considered the characteristics of managing the incident during the initial or critical phase and described the factors involved in commanding and controlling the response. It made suggestion on issues to be considered in connection with establishing a command centre, the main elements of logistic support. Matters to be considered in connection with response planning was described as well as the factors related to providing for the needs of the response teams.

Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organization – Regional level (Session 3.2)

By Mr. John Østergaard

The lesson described the purpose of regional co-operation and gave examples of such co-operation in different parts of the world. It described the legal basis for co-operation and then gave examples of Manuals on Co-operation and Regional Contingency Plans, with special focus on the draft Plan for Co-operation in the SACEP region.

Oil Spill Behaviour, Fate and Effects (Session 4)

By Mr. Martin Willman

The lesson provided information on the physical properties of various types of oil and how they evaporate, move, emulsify, disperse and spread when they are released to the marine environment and what effects these factors will have on the response effort. It provided information on methods used for estimating key property changes and factors in determining oil type and weathered state, including factors in estimating likely trajectory and fate of spills and its likelihood of coming ashore.

Spill Assessment (Session 5)

By Mr. Christopher Richards

The lesson provided information on reasons for responding or not responding to spills based on the assessment of initial information received on an oil spill. It explained methods for estimating spill size by analysing the spill source. The use of air surveillance in oil spill response was explained. It provided information on various factors to be considered in estimating potential damage associated with spill.

Operations Planning (Session 6)

By Mr. Mark Lim

The lesson provided information on factors to be considered in developing the response objectives and the overall strategic plan and how this work might be distributed between established planning teams. It listed the planning activities and the various components of an operational plan.

As a special session under this lesson, **Mr. R.S. Kankara, Department of Ocean Development, NIOT Campus, Chennai, India**, gave a presentation on his institute's research in relation to the development of mathematical oil spill drift models.

Containment, Protection and Recovery of Oil (Sessions 7 and 8)

By Mr. Martin Willman

The lesson provided information on the main response strategies, the equipment used, its strength and limitations including the use of booms and skimmers in open sea and coastal operations deployed for the purpose of containment, protection and recovery of oil. It considered the use of sorbents, in-situ burning and bioremediation, their benefits and limitations. It described the factors to be considered when monitoring the effectiveness of a recovery operation.

Use of Dispersants (Session 9)

By Mr. Cristopher Richards

The lesson provided general information on how dispersants work and described the advantages, disadvantages and limitations of the use of dispersants.

Shoreline Clean-up (Session 10)

By Ms. Caryn Anderson

The lesson provided general information on the behaviour and persistence of stranded oil and explained the main steps in a shoreline clean-up operation. It described the goals of a clean-up operation and the options for varying degrees of clean-up based upon an assessment of oiled shorelines. The lesson further described the general principles of shoreline clean-up, including the environmental effects of various clean-up techniques and the principal shoreline clean-up methods used. It discussed the different factors to consider when developing a shoreline clean-up plan and the criteria for terminating shoreline clean-up operations.

Site Safety (Session 11)

By Mr. Martin Willman

The lesson provided information on the potential hazards associated with oil spill operations and the employer and employees' responsibilities for site safety. It described the principles of safe operation and the key elements of a safety plan.

Transfer, Storage and Disposal (Session 12)

By Ms. Caryn Anderson

The lesson provided information on the overall planning factors for handling, storage and disposal of oily waste materials, and described the types of wastes normally encountered on a spill site. It described the factors to consider when selecting options for temporary storage and final disposal.

Media Relations (Session 13)

By Mr. John Østergaard

The lesson provided information on the needs of the media (newspapers, radio and television) and factors involved in successfully handling of the media. It provided guidelines for a successful media interview and recommendations on how to conduct a one-on-one interview.

Evidence Gathering and Documentation (Session 14)

By Mr. John Østergaard

The lesson provided information on the responsibility of the OSC related to evidence gathering. It described the key components of an evidence gathering plan, procedures for sample gathering and the use of photo evidences. In addition it emphasized the need for comprehensive log keeping as a tool to facilitate reporting, claims and compensation.

Command, Control, Communications and Information (Session 15)

By Mr. Mark Lim

The lesson identified the most common communication problems encountered during an oil spill response operation and the responsibilities of the OSC to develop a communications plan to ensure that appropriate contact with all units can be maintained during all phases of the response operation. Finally, the lesson provided information and training on how to prepare a communication plan and write an incident brief.

Liability and Compensation (Session 16)

By Ms. Caryn Anderson

The lesson provided the background for the development of the 1969 Civil Liability Convention (CLC 1969) and the 1971 FUND Convention (FUND 1971) and the fundamental features of the international compensation regime. It described the role of the Protection and Indemnity (P & I) Clubs and the consequences of the 1992 Protocols to the CLC and Fund Conventions. Finally, it described the implications of the international compensation regime on the OCS functions when responding to an incident vis-à-vis cost recovery and claims.

Response Deactivation (Session 17)

By Ms. Caryn Anderson

The lesson provided information on the reason for initiating a response operation and for terminating it at sea and on shore. It discussed the methods for determining the potential for recontamination and the steps to be considered in relation to decontamination, conservation and storage of equipment in connection with the termination of the operation. Finally, it discussed factors involved in post-spill monitoring.

Post Incident Debriefing (Session 18)

By Mr. Mar Lim

The lesson provided information on the participants and elements to be considered in the conduct of the post-incident debriefing. Finally, it provided details on the preparation of cost recovery documentation.

Case Studies

By Ms. Caryn Anderson, Mr. Martin Willman, Mr. Mark Lim and Mr. Christopher Richards

Case studies on the ERIKA, BALTIC CARRIER, NAHODKA and other recent incidents were provided as illustrations of the problems related management, shoreline clean-up, site safety, claims and compensation. Case studies are always well received by the participants and are very useful as a tool to facilitate a higher degree of understanding, questions and discussions.

6. EXCURSION

Thursday morning all participants and lecturers took part in an excursion to the Port of Colombo Authority and its oil spill response centre. The local oil spill response plan and the response capability were explained and demonstrated. As part of the field trip, the participants were taken on a sight seeing tour inside and outside the port area onboard a port tug. The presentations and the equipment demonstrations were highly appreciated and provided valuable information.

7. EXERCISES

By all the lecturers

Table Top exercises developed and prepared by the lecturers and IMO were conducted on Wednesday morning (contingency planning), Thursday afternoon (organization) and Friday morning (full scale exercise).

The exercises held on Friday morning, covered all aspects of the training course and was initiated in two phases as group work, based on a fictitious scenario. During **Phase One**, the groups were requested to make a sensitivity evaluation and risk assessment of the exercise area. Each Group was provided with a fixed budget of 550,000 US\$. This budget should cover the capital equipment purchases and the first year's cost of any full-time trained staff or training of staff made available. All reasonable costs incurred during a response to an incident might be reclaimed and therefore, there was no need to budget for these costs during the following exercise. Each group was provided with detailed information on equipment and its purchase price and was requested to fill in a purchase order for necessary equipment required to equip a port area and an oil terminal with sufficient resources to jointly respond to an oil spill incident should it occur in the area covered by the chart provided. It was assumed that the response should cover the first 24 hours of a spill incident, as additional equipment would arrive at the scene after 24 hours. Each group was also provided with detailed additional information on wind, current, tide, type of oils transported to and from the area, etc. and was requested to allocate roles and responsibilities in accordance with a provided organizational structure form. The planning and the purchased equipment would be available to the groups at the beginning of Phase Two of the exercise.

During **Phase Two**, an incident scenario, run in accelerated time, was presented and the groups were required to respond as appropriate. A full record of the response should be recorded including mobilisation time and expenditure. The provided charts should indicate the position of any equipment deployed.

At the end of the exercise, the designated On-Scene Commander of each group was requested to provide a debrief covering all details on her / his group's considerations and response to the spill scenario.

In conclusion, the exercises were well received and created lot of activities and discussions. They also provided a broad understanding of the role, function and responsibilities of the On-Scene Commander during an oil spill incident, and the staff members working close to her / him.

8. COURSE REVIEW AND COURSE EVALUATION

By Mr. John Østergaard

Each morning a short review of the previous day's lectures together with a presentation of the day's programme was conducted by the Course Director. The participants were invited to ask any questions related to the programme. The result of these daily reviews was that the final course review was very brief and only few questions were asked by the participants. At the end the participants were invited to comment in general on the course. There were no negative comments at all. Several participants expressed great appreciation for all the information they had received. The representatives from Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan enquired about the possibilities for national courses at Levels 2 and 3. The Deputy Director of SACEP enquired about a Level 3 or a similar Level 2 regional course to be held during 2003. In addition, he recalled that IMO had already committed itself to organize such courses as a follow-up to the adoption of the MoU and draft Regional oil spill contingency plan for the SACEP region. He further recalled IMO's commitment relating to regional training courses on port reception facilities and enforcement of MARPOL 73/78. In reply, Mr. John Østergaard informed that IMO was, in general, prepared to provide the assistance requested, and suggested further communication on this issue early in 2003.

In general the students were of the opinion that the content of the course was good and that the delivery of the lessons had been positive and encouraging. The programme was acceptable, and the logistics and support provided by the SACEP Secretariat were excellent.

Comments on the Course from the Course Director and the Lecturers

The course was conducted in a cordial, relaxed and enthusiastic atmosphere which was much appreciated by all.

The course was conducted in English only, which was fully satisfactory as all the countries involved use English as the preferred working language. However, it was noticed that many of the participants towards the end of the days had met their limits in concentration. Based on this background, it is again recommended to avoid a programme that continues after 17:00, or at the latest 18:00.

The Table Top exercises conducted during the course worked well and should be considered for inclusion on future training courses as the standard exercise to be included in the Level 2 Course. It was noted that the exercise needs a general review for the elimination of minor errors and an improvement of the general exercise set up.

Five external lecturers conducted this course. From the lecturers as well as the participants' point of view the number of instructors was appropriate, and is recommended for future courses.

It is highly recommended to use case studies as much as possible. As the course in general is organized as "one-way communications" to the participants, the use of case studies provides an excellent invitation to ask questions and initiate comments. Under all circumstances, visual

training materials with many illustrations are highly recommended. This course again confirmed that, a video or a number of slides illustrating an issue relevant to the subject under discussion, increased the participants' alertness and facilitated a broader understanding of particular circumstances related to the various phases of an oil spill response operation or the issue under discussion or presented.

Closing Ceremony

On behalf of IMO, the Course Director expressed his gratitude to the Government of Sri Lanka for hosting the Regional Training Course, and in particular to SACEP and the Port of Colombo Authority for their support, assistance and hospitality provided. He thanked the participants and the lecturers for participating and being very active during the Course.

The Deputy Director of SACEP thanked IMO and the lecturers for a well-delivered training course. He also thanked the participants for being very active during the course and welcomed any future regional training activities. Finally, he wished all the participants a safe journey home.

The Deputy Director of SACEP and the Course Director then presented the Course Certificates to each of the participants. The certificates were prepared by SACEP and signed by the Director of SACEP and the Course Director on behalf of IMO.

9. CONCLUSIONS

The course has given the participants from Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to a better understanding of the functions, duties and responsibilities of an On Scene Commander during the response to an oil spill.

The facilities and the support provided by SACEP were excellent and is recommended as the venue for any future regional or national training activities organized in co-operation between IMO and SACEP.

The standard Table Top exercises, developed by the lecturers and IMO were successful and were much appreciated by the participants. It may be considered to include the exercise as a permanent element of the Level 2 Course. However, the exercise materials are in need of review and minor improvement.

The status of oil spill preparedness within the countries of the SAS region is at different stages, the training course illustrated that there is an urgent need for additional training at the regional level and in particular at the national level in some of the countries in order to maintain the positive developments and momentum created by the development and approval of the draft Regional Contingency Plan and the present training course.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- IMO continue to support the implementation and entry into force of the draft SACEP Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan as follows:
 - One Regional Level 3 Course with special attention on claims and compensation, to be held in Sri Lanka during 2003.

- One additional Regional Level 2 Course to be held in Sri Lanka during 2003.
- IMO continue to support the development and implementation of national oil spill contingency plans in States of the SAS region, and in this regard plan for the organization of National Level 3 Courses in Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan during 2003.
- IMO should implement as soon as possible, already agreed training courses relating to implementation and enforcement of MARPOL 73/78.
- IMO should approve to implement a review and develop minor amendments to the Table Top exercise, and to adopt it as the standard exercise for IMO OPRC Level 2 Model Courses.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

COUNTRY DELEGATIONS

BANGLADESH

Mr. Zulfiquer A. T. M. Haider
Private Secretary to the Minister
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ANNEX 2



RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS FOR SUPERVISORS AND ON-SCENE COMMANDERS

11-15 November 2002, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Course Programme

Monday 11th November 2002

09:00-10:00	Opening Ceremony
10:00-10:30	Break
10:30-11:30	Course introduction (1) [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO] and Overview of spill response (2) <u>Video:</u> Planning and Operations.
11:30-12:20	Status of National Contingency Plans ¹
12:30	Lunch
14:00-15:00	Contingency Planning Response Management and Organisation (3) - National level [Mr. Chris Richards, SOSRC]
15:00-16:00	Contingency Planning, Response Management and Organisation (3) - Regional Level [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]
16:00-16:30	Break
16:30-17:30	Oil spill behaviour, fate and effects (4) [Mr. Martín Willman, OSRL]
17:30-18:30	Operations planning (6) [Mr. Mark Lim, MPA]
18:30	End of day 1

Tuesday 12th November 2002

08:30 - 08:40	Course Review [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]
08:40 – 09:00	Oil Spill Modelling [Mr. R. S. Kankara DOD, India]
09:00-10:00	Spill assessment (5) [Mr. Chris Richards, SOSRC]

¹ A 10 minute presentation by each of the five SACEP countries.

10:00-10:30	<i>Containment, protection and recovery of oil, including alternative technologies (7) [Mr. Martín Willman, OSRL]</i>
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-12:00	<i>Containment, protection and recovery of oil, including alternative technologies (7) [Mr. Martín Willman, OSRL]</i>
12:00-13:00	<i>Use of dispersants (9) [Mr. Chris Richards, SOSRC]</i>
13:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	<i>Shoreline clean-up (10) [Ms. Caryn Anderson, ITOPF]</i>
16:00-16:30	Break
16:30-18:00	<i>Site safety (11) [Mr. Martín Willman, OSRL]</i>
18:00	End of day 2

Wednesday 13th November 2002

08:00-08:30	<i>Course Review [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]</i>
08:30-10:00	<i>Transfer, storage and disposal (12) [Ms. Caryn Anderson, ITOPF]</i>
10:00-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00	<i><u>Simulation Exercise:</u> Part I: Contingency planning</i>
12:00-12:45	<i>Evidence gathering and documentation (14) [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]</i>
12:45	Lunch
14:00-15:00	<i>Liability, claims and compensation (16) [Ms. Caryn Anderson, ITOPF]</i>
15:00-16:00	<i>Command, control, communications and information (15) [Mr. Mark Lim, MPA]</i>
16:00-16:30	Break
16:30-17:30	<i>Command, control, communications and information (15) Continued [Mr. Mark Lim, MPA]</i>
17:30-19:00	<i>Internal/External relations (13) [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]</i>
19:00	End of day 3

Thursday 14th November 2002

08:30-09:00	<i>Course review [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]</i>
09:00-12:00	<i><u>Field trip:</u> Special programme prepared by Host Organization</i>
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00-15:00	<i><u>Simulation Exercise:</u> Part II: Organization phase</i>
15:00-16:00	<i>Response deactivation (17) [Ms. Caryn Anderson, ITOPF]</i>
16:00-17:30	<i>Break</i>
17:30-18:00	<i>Post incident debriefing (18) [Mr. Mark Lim, MPA]</i>
18:00	<i>End of day 4</i>

Friday 15th November 2002

08:00-08:30	<i>Course review [Mr. John Ostergaard, IMO]</i>
08:30-10:00	<i><u>Group Work:</u> Oil spill case studies</i>
10:00-10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30-13:00	<i><u>Simulation Exercise:</u> Part II: Response phase and exercise debriefing</i>
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00-15:00	<i>Course closure / Course Certificates</i>
15:00	<i>End of Course</i>



SACEP



RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS FOR SUPERVISORS AND ON-SCENE COMMANDERS

11-15 November 2002, Colombo, Sri Lanka

PROGRAMME FOR THE INAUGURAL SESSION

MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2002

08.30 Hrs *Participants & Guests take their seats*

08.45 Hrs *Arrival of Chief Guest Hon. Mahinda Wijesekera, Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources*

Inauguration with Lighting of Lamp

09.00 Hrs *Welcome Address by Mr. Mahboob Elahi, Director General, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)*

09.10 Hrs *Address by Mr. Thosapala Hewage, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources, Government of Sri Lanka*

09.25 Hrs *Address by Mr. John Ostergaard, Senior Adviser on Marine Pollution, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization*

09.40 Hrs *Address by Chief Guest Hon. Mr. Mahinda Wijesekera, Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources*

09.50 Hrs *Vote of Thanks by Mr. Prasantha Dias Abeyegunawardene, Deputy Director Programmes, SACEP*

10.00 Hrs *Tea*