OSC Agenda Item 9-2: Background

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Wider Caribbean Region
Maritime Environment

5.3 million square kilometers
28 coastal States & 10 Territories
23 of World’s 52 SIDs

Population:
- 233 mil in WCR (excluding U.S.)
- 166 mil live in the Caribbean

Travel & Tourism (2015):
- 28.7 mil International trips
- $51.9 billion to economies
- 2,231,500 jobs
- 13.0 % of employment

Major shipping routes
- Jobs & delivery of goods
800,000 bbls oil/ day thru Panama Canal
13,000+ TEU Post-Panamax Containerships
37% of world’s cruise ships
Up to 6,000 passengers per cruise ship
Caribbean Maritime Traffic

High volume of cargo, container, passenger vessel traffic.

http://cep.unep.org/racrempeitc/maritime-traffic
High Risk of Spills/Releases/Discharges

- Oil & Hazardous Noxious Substance carried as cargo
- Oil from bunker tanks
- Oil & gas from offshore production
- Invasive species in ballast water
- Toxins in antifouling paint
- Ship generated waste:
  - Oil
  - HNS
  - Garbage
  - Sewage
  - Emissions
How did we get here?

1970s
- 1979 Atlantic Express Spill Trinidad
- 1976 REMPEC Med

1980s
- 1982 Cartagena Convention
- 1983 USCG IMO Regional Consultant Seconded PR

1990s
- 1994 OPRC Convention
- 1996 MOU REMPEITC NLs, USCG & NLs Antilles

2000s
- 2000 9th IGM & 6th Cartagena Parties Mtg IMO/IPIECA GI Workshop
- 2002 MOU RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe NL Antilles IMO & UNEP

2010s
- Oct 2010 Curacao Independence from NL
- 2008 UNEP Guidelines for RACs 13th IGM & 10th Mtg of Cartagena Parties
- 2016 MOU UNEP & Curacao

1970s - 2010s

How did we get here?
Atlantic Empress Spill

- 1979 ATLANTIC EMPRESS-AEGEAN CAPTAIN collision off Trinidad
- 300,000 tons of oil – worst Ship spill in history (Valdex 37,415 Tons)
- AEGEAN CAPTAIN towed to Curacao
- ATLANTIC EMPRESS towed 300 NM offshore: explosion & sank
- Fire fighting & Dispersants

- 1980 Meeting of Caribbean Islands on Oil Spill Contingency Planning
The Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela
Legal structure: Contracting Parties must adopt measures aimed at preventing, reducing & controlling:

- pollution from ships
- pollution caused by dumping
- pollution from sea-bed activities
- airborne pollution
- pollution from land-based sources & activities
Conscious that oil exploration, production and refining activities, as well as related marine transport, pose a threat of significant oil spills in the wider Caribbean region.

**Article 3: General provisions**

Co-operation, both preventive & remedial
Legislation, contingency plans, capability to respond,
Designation of an authority responsible for implementation

**Article 4: Exchange of information**

**Article 5: Oil pollution reporting procedures**

**Article 6: Mutual assistance**

**Article 8: Promotion of bilateral & multilateral co-operation**
1983
Secondment of US Coast Guard Officer to IMO for 2 years, Puerto Rico

- Advisory role: Cartagena Convention Countries of WCR
- Prevent, abate & control of marine pollution principally from ships, marine terminals and offshore activities & others
- Promote regional, subregional & national Contingency planning
- Implementation: MARPOL, OPRC, Cartagena Convention Oil Spill Protocol
- Seminars in conjunction with IMO
- Maritime safety, emphasis on port safety/security, seaport disaster contingency planning, and security of ship passengers and crew
**International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness Response and Cooperation (OPRC 1990)**

**Global framework** for international cooperation & mutual assistance in combating major oil spill incidents

Parties required to take measures to **prepare for & respond to oil pollution**

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1996 MOU: Netherlands, USCG and Netherlands Antilles

- Established Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Information and Training Centre (REMPEITC) for the Wider Caribbean Region on the Island of Curacao
- USCG secondee relocated
- Netherlands secondee to IMO: Martine Pollution, Port Safety and Security
- Invitations to other countries, organizations & international agencies to support
- Meet once a year to review, evaluate, prepare modifications
- To strengthen national & regional preparedness & response capacities of the island states & territories of the WCR & foster cooperation & mutual assistance
- Cartagena Convention Oil Spill Protocol, Caribbean Islands OPRC Plan
- Feb 2000: 9th Intergovenmental Meeting on Action Plan for Caribbean Env Program & Sixth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention
- Regional Activity Networks → Action Plan → Caribbean Environment Programme
- May 2000 **IMO/ IPIECA** Global Initiative Workshop:
  - *Government & Industry* involvement for a *regional response system*
NEW: 2002 MOU Netherlands Antilles, IMO & **UNEP** (previous MOU had expired)
- Regional Activity Center (RAC) / REMPEITC-Carib
- UNEP-Car/RCU & IMO Management
- **Steering Committee**
  - Activities of RAC, guidance & supervision
  - Approves Concrete tasks → Work Plan/Budget approves
Cartagena Convention
Adopted in 1983
Entered into Force in 1986

Oil Spills Protocol
Adopted in 1983
Entered into Force in 1986

Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol
Adopted in 1990
Entered into Force in 2000

Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution Protocol
Adopted in 1999
Entered into Force in 2010

RAC/REMPEITC (Curacao)

UNEP-CAR/RCU Secretariat
2008 UNEP Guidelines for RACs

- Guidance for establishing Regional Activity Centers (RACs) and Regional Activity Networks (RANs) under the Convention for the (Cartagena Convention).

- Effective ways for governments & CEP partner organizations to implement cooperative measures called for by the Cartagena Convention.
A RAC is a financially autonomous, international or regional organization, or regional or national institution with regional focus, which has been designated by the Contracting Parties to the Cartagena Convention to coordinate or carry out specific technical functions and activities in support of the Convention and its Protocols or any future protocols. The objective of the RAC is to strengthen the delivery of activities in support of the Convention and its Protocols through decentralizing the work and by the addition of human and financial resources from a member country, another UN or international organization, non governmental organization or other donors.
Cartagena Convention

- Adopted in 1982
- Entered into Force in 1986

- Oil Spills Protocol
  - Adopted in 1983
  - Entered into Force in 1986
  - RAC/REMPEITC
    - (Curacao)

- Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife Protocol
  - Adopted in 1990
  - Entered into Force in 2000
  - SPAW-RAC
    - (Guadeloupe)

- Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution Protocol
  - Adopted in 1999
  - Entered into Force in 2010
  - IMA
    - (Trinidad)
  - Centre of Engineering & Env Mgmt of Coasts & Bays
    - (Cuba)

UNEP-CAR/RCU Secretariat
2016 MOU: UNEP & Government of Curacao

- Curacao autonomous entity within Kingdom of the Netherlands
- 2008 Guidelines on RACs
- UNEP: technical guidance, support, supervise operation to Integrating with Caribben Environment Program
- Guidance & supervision of Steering Committee
- Ministry of Traffic, Transport and Urban Planning of Curacao → Operating Finances
- Director AND OPERATIONS MANAGER
- Consultants/experts might be seconded
  - rules/regs of UN & laws of Curacao
**Mission**
To assist countries of the Wider Caribbean Region to develop sustainable national and regional capabilities for implementing international standards to prevent and respond to threats to the marine environment from ships.

**Vision**
Our vision is of a resilient Wider Caribbean Region where all nations share best practices and resources and have effectively implemented the Cartagena Convention Oil Spill Protocol, 1983, the OPRC Convention, 1990, and other related UNEP and IMO Conventions and Protocols that help to prevent and, when necessary, respond to marine pollution.

**Values**
We are professionals of the highest integrity that build regional capacity and promote cooperation among the diverse nations of the Wider Caribbean Region.
Works in support of:
International Maritime Organization (IMO) &
United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP)

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),
- RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands
- CITES Convention on trade in endangered species,
- Stockholm Convention on chemicals management
- Basel Convention on hazardous waste
- Oil Pollution Preparedness Response & Cooperation (OPRC)
- MARPOL
- Ballast Water Management
- London Conventions.
Cartagena Convention and Oil Spills Protocol
OPRC 1990
2000 OPRC Hazardous and Noxious Substances Protocol
MARPOL Convention
Civil Liability and Fund Conventions
Anti-fouling Systems Convention
Ballast Water Management Convention
And other relevant legal instruments
Activities Attended/Hosted by Countries (2005-2014)
Convention Ratification & Implementation

The graph shows the percentage of States and Territories of the WCR that have ratified or implemented various conventions and protocols. The conventions and protocols include CAGRENSA CONVENTION, OIL SPILL PROTOCOL, MARPOL 73/78 (Annex III), MARPOL 73/78 (Annex IV), MARPOL/Protocol 97 (Annex VII), CLC Protocol 92, FUND Protocol 92, FUND Protocol 2003, OPRC Convention 90, and OPRC/HNS 2000.

A notable trend is the increase in ratification and implementation over the years, with the BWM Convention highlighted as a significant area for focus.
More than Training & Technical Assistance!

- Represents the WCR at Regional & International forums (IOSC, MEPC, PPR, SMA, IGM)
- Secretariat of OPRC Plan, MTOP, BWM Task Force
- Shares understanding of implementation challenges unique to the WCR.
- Voices concerns, raises attention and brokers support for the WCR.
- Facilitates partnerships & communication within the WCR
- Provides IMO trusted regional stakeholders
Historically **2-3 Consultants** & a Part Time Director at the Center

- Operations Manager at the Center ➔ Carla Since 1995
- USCG ➔ Puerto Rico Since 1993, Curacao Since 1995
- Current Status ➔ Single Consultant Since July 2016
Operational Support

Bar chart showing operational support costs from 2004/2005 to 2016/2017 for various countries including the USA, Curacao, France, Netherlands, Venezuela, Jamaica, and Belize. The chart indicates a significant increase in costs from 2016/2017 onwards, with a particular emphasis on Curacao and the Netherlands.

Legend:
- 2004/2005
- 2006/2007
- 2008/2009
- 2010/2011
- 2012/20013
- 2014/2015
- 2016/2017

Countries:
- USA
- Curacao
- France
- Netherlands
- Venezuela
- Jamaica
- Belize

Costs:
- TBD
- $0
- $10,000
- $20,000
- $30,000
- $40,000
- $50,000
- $60,000
- $70,000
- $80,000
- $90,000
- $100,000
- $150,000
- $200,000
- $250,000
- $300,000
- $350,000
- $400,000
- $450,000
- $500,000
- $550,000
- $600,000
Activity Support

- IMO
- USCG
- Globallast
- UNEP
- PMAC
- Colombia


- IMO
- UNEP
- Oil & Shipping Industry
- Wider Caribbean Countries
- USA
- France
- Netherlands
- Other
Many Historic Partners

- The International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)
- Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)
- Regional Association of Oil and Bio-fuels Sector Companies in Latin America and the Caribbean (ARPEL)
- La Comisión Centroamericana de Transporte Marítimo (COCATRAM)
- Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on Accidental Water Pollution (CEDRE)
- International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited (ITOPF)
- United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP)
- Many, many, others

US, UK, NL, FR
In-Kind Support 2016-2018

Number of Activities

- ARPEL
- CEDRE
- CEREMA
- CSA
- CTEH
- Ecopetrol
- ExxonMobile
- France
- Gallagher
- Harbor Branch
- ITOPF
- NBIC
- NOAA
- OSRL
- Shell
- T&T Salvage
- USCG
- Varichem
Senior Maritime Administrators Needs/Requests/Concerns/Interests

IMO MED & TCD Develops PID

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe 2-yr Strategic Plan

Develop Work Plan

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe Steering Committee Approval/Recommendations

Activity Proposals

Activities Conducted IAW IMO PID

Cartagena Convention Contracting Parties

Other Funding Sources (UNEP, USA, UK, FR, NL, Industry...)

Activities Conducted by other funding sources

Recommendations from Activities/Workshops ...etc
Å Endorsed
  - Long-Term Strategic Plan (2015-2025)
  - Revised mission, vision and values, & use of “key performance indicators”

Å Welcomed new MOU between UNEP & Government of Curaçao
  - Renewed hosting agreement for RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe
  - Establishing the Centre as a legal entity.

Å Reiterated importance for IMO, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe & USCG to finalize/sign new agreements.
  - To ensure continued technical & financial assistance to the Centre
Recognized benefits of a Full-time Director

- To lead implementation of the Centre’s new Long Term Strategic Plan,
- Ensure proper direction
- Assist with negotiations to procure sufficient staff
- Fulfil mission, achieve vision, upholding values
2016 Steering Committee
Recommendations

Â Urge all donor countries to attend Steering Committee

Â Ensure Contracting Parties are represented at Steering Committee Meetings

Â Note: continued use of virtual attendance for widest possible participation in Steering Committee.
  ï To ensure activities reflect donor needs

Â Attendance by Member of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties & President of the Monitoring Committee
  ï Required Terms of Reference
• Encourage the Centre, in collaboration with IMO & UNEP, to explore possible funding opportunities (GEF-funded projects)

• Note progress & future plans to develop a Marine Traffic Database using AIS
  ï view to providing proposal outlining of costs and utility

• Note communication /outreach materials
  ï social media pages, brochure, banners, new website, promotional video
  ï Welcome offer UNEP to translate brochure into Spanish.
Consider expanding Multilateral Technical Operating Procedures for Offshore Oil Pollution Response (MTOP)

- To all Contracting Parties
- Incorporating into existing Caribbean Island OPRC Plan
- Changing name to more inclusive “Wider Caribbean Region OPRC Plan”. 
2016 Steering Committee Recommendations

Â Decision by TOTAL/SA to suspend funding → June 2016

Â Urge all Parties to
   - Secondments of consultants / provision of resources

Â Establish working group
   - led by UNEP-CEP CAR/RCU with IMO, RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe :

Â Identifying secondees from
   - Contracting Parties,
   - Other Nations,
   - United Nations,
   - Academic Institutions/Maritime Institutions
   - Others.

Â Appeal for the use Caribbean Trust Fund
2016 Steering Committee Recommendations

Å Jamaica’s dialogue with other Caribbean States
   ï Possibility of seconding senior level maritime officials on a rotational basis

Å Hold an extraordinary meeting of the Steering Committee in 2017
   ï To revisit the staffing issues
   ï Align with meeting of the Senior Maritime Administrators