THE NINTH ORDINARY MEETING
OF THE RAC/REMPEITC-CARIBE STEERING COMMITTEE

Third Regional Task Force Meeting on the Ratification and Implementation of the IMO Convention on Ballast Water Management (June 2017 – Ciudad de Panamá)

Purposes

- To review and update the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) with an aim of implementing the SAP.

- Share information with the participants about:
  - the current status of the Convention in the region, and
  - lessons learned from other countries for ratifying and implementing the Convention.
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RTF-WCR member delegates agreed on:
- updates to the SAP,
- rules or procedures for the RTF-WCR
- revised Guidelines for Ballast Water Exchange and Sediment Management in WCR area.
- a framework for developing a Clearinghouse Mechanism;
- election of Colombia as Chair, Jamaica as First Vice-Chair, and Panama as Second Vice-Chair for the RTF-WCR.
The Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the RAC/Rempeitc-Caribe Steering Committee

Action Plan for the implementation of the Regional Strategy on Ships’ Ballast Water Management

**Action 2**: Establishing a web-based WCR clearinghouse mechanism

- **Strategic Priority 9**: Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan:
  - **Action 6**: Establish a Ballast Water and Sediments Scientific Committee
  - **Action 7**: Establish a Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement system in the WCR system in the WCR
Proposal

In order to progress in the execution of the tasks of Action Plan for the WCR, :

- Supported in the Dimar portal and with access from the RAC-REMPEITC Caribe website, as part of the clearinghouse mechanism, establish two portals, for:
  - Ballast Water and Sediments Scientific Committee Portal
  - Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) for SAP Country Official use. (Close-ended Portal).

Without ruling out that independent portals could be offered in the future
Proposal

- For the exchange of information among the members (especially the scientific committee):
  - Use of the institutional videoconference service capabilities
  - However, we are working to have an exclusive chat service for the needs of these portals and their members.
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- Tasks to be developed, if this proposal is approved:
  - Work with Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica to refine the details of the portals and procedures for accessing these portals.
  - Define the link aspects from the web page of RAC-REMPEITC Caribe (WEB Master)
  - Update the contact points of the members
- Approval of this proposal is requested.

In this way, it is considered that we can build the communications network as a mechanism for the exchange of information, in accordance with Action 2 of the Action Plan.