

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden

TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR)

Individual Consultant to update the regional oil spill/ Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) contingency plan and build capacity on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response Cooperation (OPRC) with emphasis on HNS pollution

Under the Project

Sustainable Fishery Development in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (SFISH)

Program/Project Number:	P178143
Activity Code:	PERSGA-2205-2-CS-INDV
Expected Duration	60 working days distributed over 7 months
Expected Start date	September 2023
Type of Contract	Lump-sum linked to deliverables payment

1. Background and Justification

The Regional Organization for Conservation of the Marine Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) is an intergovernmental organization established since 1995. PERSGA institutional framework is based on the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment (Jeddah Convention 1982), which joins seven member states, including Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen. Rational use of marine resources and the protection of coastal marine environment from pollution and overexploitation are central objectives of Jeddah Convention (1982) and its derived Regional Protocols and Action Plan. PERSGA runs regional programs and projects that support regional capacities and coordination to achieve these objectives.

The announced consultancy is needed for implementation of the regional project “Sustainable Fisheries Development in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden”, referred to hereafter as the Project or SFISH, which is financed by the World Bank and executed by PERSGA in the region. The project development objectives is to strengthen capacities and regional collaboration in management of marine fisheries and aquaculture in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region. The regional component of the project focuses specifically on: i) developing PERSGA regional data center and integrated information and knowledge management systems for monitoring and assessment, and sharing

knowledge to support science-based policy and management of sustainable fisheries and marine resources in PERSGA region; ii) strengthening PERSGA platforms for capacity development and regional coordination mechanisms for sustainable marine fisheries and aquaculture; iii) enhancing citizens, private sector and development partners engagements in sustainable fishery through effective communication and awareness strategies.

In order to strengthen practical and technical guidance to promptly and effectively respond to marine incidents that could have detrimental impacts to the marine ecosystems, especially on marine fishery and their critical habitats, the current consultancy service will support effective implementation of the Jeddah Convention (1982) and associated protocols, particularly the Protocol Concerning Regional Cooperation in Combating Pollution by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency. The existing Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan (ROSCP) provides a framework for collaboration in contingency and response to marine pollution at a regional level as well as specific coordination mechanisms in case of a major marine oil spill in the region. The PERSGA Regional Program for Reduction of Navigation Risk and Marine Pollution also provides operational base. This program was established as an outcome of the relevant component under SAP project (1999-2005), which was supported by the GEF and World Bank and executed by PERSGA. It was sustained as a regional program that undertakes regular capacity building and regional coordination activities to combat marine pollution in the region. SAP also supported PERSGA to establish Regional Center for Marine Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA-EMARSGA), based in Hurghadah, Egypt, which is currently operated under the program activities.

Considering the increasing risks of oil and HNS spills in the region, PERSGA and EMARSGA need to promote their regional efforts to improve capacities for contingency planning and response, considering the devastating impacts on marine environment and living resources in case on incidents. Through the SFISH project, PERSGA has identified three priority activities to strengthen and promote current regional efforts, including i) upgrading the OILMAP modelling system at EMARSGA center to integrate chemical modelling component: ii) update and extend the current ROSCP, and associated guidelines, training program to include HNS pollution aspects; iii) build the capacity in sensitivity mapping, and associated guidelines for management of oil and HNS spill accidents. In this framework, this consultancy service will focus on updating the current ROSCP, extend the plan to include HNS pollution aspects, and build capacity on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response Cooperation (OPRC) with emphasis on HNS pollution.

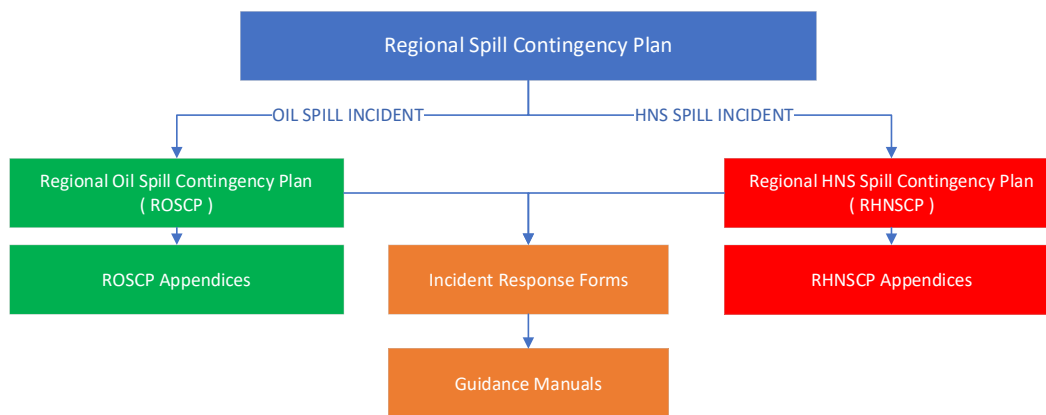
2. Purpose of the consultancy service

The current consultancy focuses on updating the ROSCP to integrate preparedness, contingency and response to HNS incidents, and promote regional capacities and mechanisms in this regard. The consultancy will also develop tailored regional guidelines for assessing hazards and risk management of HNS spills, and up appropriate response strategies and approaches for the region. Therefore, the consultant will work update and extend the current “Regional Spill Contingency Plan for the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden region (ROSCP)” to cover HNS aspects. The consultant will also develop relevant technical guidelines and training modules and deliver training to

regional specialists on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response Cooperation (OPRC) with emphasis on Contingency Planning and HNS, and to exercise the revised ROSCP.

In this connection, the PERSGA regional center for marine Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA-EMARSGA) is equipped with a deterministic oil spill trajectory modeling system (OILMAP 2D Model) that can provide a 5-day forecast modelling the fate of oil spills. PERSGA will soon upgrade this system, including supplying a chemical discharge modelling tool component. The consultant will thus consider the accessible utilities of the EMARSGA upgraded oil spill and chemical modelling system, which will be readily installed prior to the consultancy onset, in designing the updated ROSCP and its associated technical guidelines and training program.

The consultancy assignment will focus on revision and addition of the necessary information, actions, measures, etc. for effective preparedness/ contingency and response, and to ensure that the updated plan meet the operational needs of PERSGA region to respond to both oil and chemical spills, in addition to providing technical information to facilitate the decision-making process for selection of response measures at a national and regional level (see figure below).



The plan to be developed by the consultant referred to hereafter “**Regional Spill Contingency Plan for the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden region (RSCP-RSGA)**” shall ensure the following are covered:

- Pinpoint the gaps/weakness and assess the performance of the existing ROSCP plan
- Put in place a Regional Action Plan and collaboration towards the ratification/implementation of the OPRC-HNS convention and to fill all the identified gaps.
- Updating background information, actions, measures, etc. regarding aspects of oil spills
- Added and integrated background information; environmental and operational on HNS and ways to assessing hazards, risks associated with spillages of HNS.
- Guidance information for decision making, planning and selection of adequate responses measures – to provide list of appropriate tactical responses sheets.
- Guidance information on post spill management that includes liability and compensation for damage by Oil or HNS incidents.
- Guidance on monitoring and surveillance (i.e modeling , remote sensing...etc) of oil and HNS spills

- Places of refuge protocols, Incident Response Forms and collate a suite of Guidance Manuals;
- Examples of some relevant case studies (regional and international);
- Any other constituent that the consultant finds necessary in consultation with regional and national experts/ consortium.

3. Tasks and Responsibilities of the international Consultant

In this context, the international consultant will work directly with the Project Coordination Unit “PCU” and in close collaboration with the regional and national experts to undertake the following tasks and responsibilities:

Task.1 Review, assess and revise the regional contingency plan (deliverables 1 and 2).

The consultant will carry out a review of the ROSCP to assess and analyze gaps and identify required inputs to update, and to add, adapt the plan to integrate HNS. Specific duties of the consultant under Task 1 include:

- a) Participate a kick-off meeting with the Project Coordination Unit “PCU” and the regional experts to discuss methodology, timetable and overall direction as an inception report (deliverable 1).
- b) Review the existing regional contingency Plan that includes the performance and effectiveness of existing plan and other supporting and relevant documents /policies/ procedures/ plans etc. in the member states.
- c) Assess the status including Oil and HNS and issues (types of chemicals handled; bulk, in packaged forms; management, preparedness contingency planning and response capacities, etc.), and their associated risks in the region.
- d) Develop assessment report, including identified and assessed regional risks of HNS pollution with view to analyze the status and recommend measures to improve regional and national policies, planning and management for good and effective governance, and to update the regional plan (deliverable 2).

Task.2 Develop a draft ROSCP addressing both oil and HNS spills (deliverable 3).

Based on the results of Task (1) above, the consultant will develop draft ROSCP that would reflect the following key elements:

- Modified ROSCP including Place of Refuge protocols, Incident Response Forms and collate a suite of Guidance Manuals; and
- Added and integrated HNS Contingency Planning parts including Place of Refuge protocols, Incident Response Forms and collate a suite of Guidance Manuals.

The Draft plan must contain all the assessment findings and reflect work on Requirements. The draft ROSCP will be shared with Member States for reviews. The consultant will then receive remarks, comments and inputs from PERSGA and incorporate them in a revised draft document. The final version of the HNS Contingency Plan will be presented by the consultant in a regional workshop that would introduce and roll out the contingency Plan to the region and to be formally validated and endorsed.

Task.3 Final draft of ROSCP addressing both oil and HNS spills (deliverable 4). The consultant will develop and final draft incorporating all review remarks PERSGA

Task.4 Developing training modules and conducting regional training (deliverable 5):

The training modules and workshop would be focused particularly on the revised ROSCP to assist its implementation, and based on both the IMO HNS Model Course considering regional needs and priorities. Specific duties of the consultant under Task 4 include:

- a) Develop training modules and lead a table top exercise if appropriate in order to explain and exercise the revised regional ROSCP
- b) Facilitate 1 regional training workshop (3-days) on OPRC specifically Contingency Planning and HNS for 25 national specialists from PERSGA member states,
- c) provide recommendations for improved response capacity based on the analysis on information provided in the regional contingency Plan regarding existing HNS plans and response policy and available response equipment in the region
- d) provide feedback to the participants throughout the workshop to enhance learning and to facilitate the learning process; and
- e) A regional workshop report, including recommendations for further training needs.

Task 6. Submit a final consultancy report.

4. Timeframe and schedule for key deliverables from the contract signature

The consultant contract comes into effect upon signature and ends upon satisfactory delivery of the tasks identified below.

#	Deliverables	Timelines
1	Inception report which includes a detailed work plan indicating key milestones and timeline, outlines of methodology	2 weeks
2	Regional assessment and gap analysis report	6 weeks
3	Draft ROSCP addressing both oil and HNS spills	3 months
4	Final draft of the ROSCP	4 months
5	Training modules and delivery of regional workshop on revised ROSCP and OPRC Contingency Planning counting HNS. This will be an HNS focused bespoke course to address the aspects counting HNS and associated guidelines to rollout the updated ROSCP	6 months
6	Final Consultancy Report including summary of all consultancy outputs and recommendations	7 months

4. Duty station and duration

Duty station: Home based and with in-situ field visits to PERSGA HQ in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for consultations and provision of training. The consultancy will be completed over 7 months, during which the consultant is expected to utilize about 60 actual working days.

5. Qualifications

- University degree (preferable postgraduate) in maritime pollution, marine ecology or related disciplines.

- Rich experience in similar consultancies on contingency planning, preparedness and response to oil and HNS spills with international organizations, including three similar assignments in volume and complexity during the last seven years.
- Familiar with shipping operations in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and have a good knowledge of the various port terminals along the coast of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, including legal and administrative matters in PERSGA states.
- Strong proficiency in writing and speaking in English language.
- Ability to prepare documents and reporting at international standards.

6. Application procedure and closing date

Interested applicant should submit Expression of Interest (EoI) letter and CV to the following email address: sourcing@persga.org

- Applications should be received no later than 16 of September 2023
- EoI letter should indicate the consultancy title and Activity Code mentioned above.