



**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE / REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION
EMERGENCY, INFORMATION AND TRAINING CENTRE - WIDER CARIBBEAN REGION**

Country Profile 2015

COUNTRY	SURINAME
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Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to complete this important questionnaire. The thorough and accurate information you provide will be used by RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe to:

1. fulfill the exchange of information requirements of the Cartagena Convention and the International Convention on Oil Pollution Prevention, Response and Cooperation, 1990 (OPRC 90),
2. determine your country's specific training and exercise expectations and needs,
3. determine the regional training and exercise needs within the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR),
4. inform the working group currently developing RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe's new, 10-year strategic plan,
5. share with other organizations like UNEP, IMO and ITOFF.

RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe has been serving the marine environmental training, communication and exercise needs of the Wider Caribbean Region for over 20 years. Completing the questionnaire below will ensure RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe meets your needs and expectations well into the future. Thank you.

Person responsible for this questionnaire

Last Name	Fung A Loi
First Name	Ryan
Title/Position	Head Legal Department Maritime Authority Suriname
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1. Conventions and Agreements Ratified and/or Implemented

	Oil Spill Response			Prevention and Safety						Compensation						Other					
	OPRC 90	OPRC HNS	Cartagena Conv. Oil Spill Protocol	MARPOL 73/78, protocol 97 Annexes						CLC			Fund			HNS Conv	HNS Prot.	Anti fouling	Bunkers Conv.	Ballast water	
				1	2	3	4	5	6	'69	'76	'92	'76	'92	'03	'96	'10	'01	'01	'04	
Year of ratification				'88	'88	'88	'88	'88													
Year of implementation																					
Expect to Ratify (yes / no)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y													

1.1 What, if any, International Convention is your Country most likely to ratify next?

OPRC 90, Cartagena Convention Oil Spill Protocol, CLC '92, FUND '92, BUNKERS '01

1.2 Additional Comments

The Maritime Authority Suriname will develop, with assistance of an Initiative Group, a communication (including a roadmap and action plan) to the Minister of Transport, Communication and Tourism and the Minister of Labour, Technological Development and Environment, outlining the desire and the need for Suriname to ratify the International Oil Spill Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention (OPRC).

2. National Focal Points

2.1	MINISTRY OF LEAD AGENCY	Ministry of Labour, Technological Development and Environment (ATM) – Directorate for Environment	POC: Mrs. Henna J. Uiterloo, Permanent Secretary, Office hours: 7 am – 3 pm TEL: + (597) 420960 CELL: FAX: + (597) 475574 EMAIL: secmilieu@atm.gov.sr ; henna.uiteroo@atm.gov.sr ; henna_uiteroo@yahoo.com
		Address: Prins Hendrikstraat 17 Paramaribo Suriname	
2.2	LEAD AGENCY	Maritime Authority Suriname	POC: Mr. M. Amafo LL.M TEL: +597 476733 CELL: +597 8560137 FAX: +597 472940 EMAIL: mamafo@mas.sr / amafomichel@yahoo.com
		Address: Cornelis Jongbawstraat 2 - P.O. BOX 888 Paramaribo, Suriname	
2.3	SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT	Maritime Authority Suriname	POC: Mr. M. Amafo LL.M TEL: +597 476733 CELL: +597 8560137 FAX: +597 472940 EMAIL: mamafo@mas.sr / amafomichel@yahoo.com
		Address: Cornelis Jongbawstraat 2 - P.O. BOX 888 Paramaribo, Suriname	
2.4	RESPONSE AGENCY	Maritime Authority Suriname	POC: Mr. M. Amafo LL.M TEL: +597 476733 CELL: +597 8560137 FAX: +597 472940 EMAIL: mamafo@mas.sr / amafomichel@yahoo.com
		Address: Cornelis Jongbawstraat 2 - P.O. BOX 888 Paramaribo, Suriname	
2.5	NATIONAL OPERATIONAL	Maritime Authority Suriname	POC: Mr. M. Amafo LL.M TEL: +597 476733

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	CONTACT FOR MARPOL	Address: Cornelis Jongbawstraat 2 - P.O. BOX 888 Paramaribo, Suriname	CELL: +597 8560137 FAX: +597 472940 EMAIL: mamafo@mas.sr / amafomichel@yahoo.com
2.6	NATIONAL OPERATIONAL CONTACT FOR BALLASTWATER	Maritime Authority Suriname Address: Cornelis Jongbawstraat 2 - P.O. BOX 888 Paramaribo, Suriname	POC: Mr. M. Amafo LL.M TEL: +597 476733 CELL: +597 8560137 FAX: +597 472940 EMAIL: mamafo@mas.sr / amafomichel@yahoo.com

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3. Risk Assessment

3.1	What is your Countries greatest risk for an oil spill?	Bunkering (Staatsolie and other parties), shipping for trade/commerce and industrial activities in general, oil exploration drilling activities, fisheries (including trawlers), ship to ship transfer operations.
3.2	Date of last oil spill risk assessment?	For Staatsolie/POC this has been in the Block IV exploration drilling context (ESIA, Oilspill modeling, OSRP risk table). For Suriname there has been an exercise with the preparedness assessment tool from ARPEL in the small group of OPRC workshop participants (November 2014).
3.3	Topics covered?	Fuel bunkering, transportation of personnel and materials/equipment, exploration drilling activities, aviation safety accident, ...
3.4	Geographic area?	For Staatsolie/POC Block IV: nearshore area north of Saramacca district.
3.5	What area is considered a priority?	Offshore and inland waters, especially considering Suriname's wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas and the most populated coastal region.
3.6	Additional comments / Difficulties encountered?	During n the OPRC workshop (okt 2014) it was stated by one of the participants that in Suriname risk assessments are not yet fully embedded in every activity at national level. It was also concluded that the level of awareness is relatively low, and that it is highly recommended to invest in a nation-wide educational campaign at all levels regarding the need to identify our risk areas and to be prepared to effectively respond as a nation, including in transboundary incidents.

4. Sensitivity Maps

4.1	Sensitivity Maps exist?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (go to 4.5)
4.2	Date of map or last update?	Suriname has not officially proclaimed any sensitive maps. A consultant has prepared a report for Staatsolie/POC, identifying some sensitive areas in Suriname's coastal waters. (May 2014)
4.3	Geographic area covered?	Suriname coastline between Suriname River and Corantijn River
4.4	Format used: paper or electronic?	Paper and electronic
4.5	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?	A thousand pictures have been generated. A system was put in place that allows easy access to relevant information of each sensitive site identified, for adequate response. The information generated (Environmental Sensitivity Mapping for Nearshore Block IV Exploration Project, Suriname Coast - Technical Report by ESL), has been shared by Staatsolie/POC with participants at the OPRC workshop hosted by MAS, and with other key stakeholders.
4.6	Will you share with RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe data layers for your sensitivity maps if any?	The available data will be made available to RAC/REMPEITC Carib on request.

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5. National Contingency Plan

5.1a	National Contingency Plan exists?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – Status of Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft <input type="checkbox"/> To be developed Details: ...				
5.1b	Is there a National Contingency Plan for HNS incidents? (& if so, is this an extension of the oil spill contingency plan or a separate document?)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – Status of Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of the NCP <input type="checkbox"/> Separate document <input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be developed Details: ...				
5.2	Date Plan was developed or updated?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">NCP</th> <th style="width: 50%;">NCP for HNS incidents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	NCP	NCP for HNS incidents		
NCP	NCP for HNS incidents					
5.3	Date approved?	National Plan has been developed but is not yet approved; The NCP identifies the Designated Authority for oil spill response (and/or defines authority for specific spill cases; e.g., spill to land vs. spill to marine waters).				
5.4	Is the Plan in electronic format?	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
5.5	Date of the last evaluation with the assessment tool, the “Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills (RETOS™)”	20 November 2014 (During the Sub-regional OPRC Ratification and Implementation Workshop and Introduction to RETOS Readiness Analysis Tool 18- 20 November 2014)				
5.6	What is the National policy on dispersant use and in-situ burning?	There is no policy yet. At the time of this report, the environmental agency (NIMOS) is engaging with key stakeholders to discuss the best approach under the circumstances. Oil exploration projects follow best practice as identified and established through the ESIA process. OSRL experts have recommended to Staatsolie/POC to avoid the use of dispersants in waterdepths below 9m, based on conclusions from scientific reports.				
5.7	Agreements with other organizations for response? (Please provide details)	Staatsolie and POC have arrangements with OSRL – Oil Spill Response Limited (previously known as Clean Caribbean).				
5.8	Does the country have regulations for managing waste? (Please provide details)	Hinderwet (Nuisance Act) and police laws prohibit uncontrolled waste disposal in general; The Petroleum Law, Drilling Law and Mining Decree mention prevention of negative environmental impacts and pollution in general but no detailed oily waste regulations; The Decree on Mining Installations mentions				

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		similar including prevention of destruction of ecosystems and pollution prevention of the sea environment of neighboring coastal states. The Harbours Decree prohibits to discharge of ballast, waste, and condemned goods overboard into public waters, and to pump out oil, oil contained ballast and bilge water.
5.9	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?	Staatsolie and POC work in accordance with a HSE policy and management system and supporting procedures. Contractors and subcontractors engaged in Staatsolie projects work in line with commitments from the ESIA report.

6. Exercises / Training / Incidents

6.1	What is the national agency in charge of personnel training?	There is no national agency in charge of personnel training
6.2	Does a national center exist to train personnel?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
6.3	Date of last national exercise?	
6.4	Has there been any experience of ship-source Oil pollution related incidents?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
6.5	Has there been any experience of ship-source HNS related incidents?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please provide details) ? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
6.6	Additional comments/ Difficulties encountered?	

7. Regional Cooperation

7.1	What are the bilateral or multilateral agreements for the country?	Suriname is not a party to any regional or bilateral agreements with regard to oil spill response.
7.2	What are the opportunities in developing a regional exercise in the country?	
7.3	Is there a mechanism in place to facilitate the clearance of equipment through Customs in an emergency situation? What is the process?	At the time of this report, engagement by Staatsolie/POC with the relevant authorities is in progress.
7.4	Additional comments?	

8. Equipment

8.1	Does your country maintain a list of oil spill cleanup equipment and	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
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	materials?	<input type="checkbox"/> No (go to 8.4)
8.2	Is this equipment list in electronic format?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8.3	What equipment is available for Oil pollution incident response? (a general indication of the types and amounts of response equipment and materials available from both government agencies and private companies within the country).	Staatsolie/POC will provide access to their list of equipment for incident response.
8.4	What equipment is available for HNS incident response? (a general indication of the types and amounts of response equipment and materials available from both government agencies and private companies within the country).	
8.5	Are there agreements in place to facilitate additional support (i.e. aerial support, medical support, manpower, communications) (possibilities for deploying dispersants with planes or helicopters)?	Staatsolie/POC have agreements in place with OSRL, and probably so do their Offshore operators.
8.6	Additional comments?	

FUTURE EXPECTATIONS
Expectations

Introduction

The objective of this part is to identify a country's needed support from various regional and international organizations (activities, manuals, guidelines, etc). This will allow RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe to update their strategic plan to meet the country's expectations and to further develop the Caribbean Island OPRC Plan. While RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe will consider all proposed recommendations, there may be cases where certain expectations will not be met due to financial

constraints and/or other commitments.

9. Technical Support

9.1	With respect to the activities developed by RAC/REMPEITC-Caribe, list three activities that are needed in order to improve your country's pollution response posture.	<p>1. Sharing of incident (spill) reports and lessons learned, per country</p> <p>2. Joint exercises (Oil Spill Response)</p> <p>3. Periodic joint sessions to discuss preparedness and response, any newly identified issues that might be more effectively addressed jointly or with additional outside (foreign experts) assistance.</p>
9.2	What guidelines or technical manuals does your country use in regards to pollution response preparedness (title & author)?	<p>Suriname Coastguard has worked with examples from US Coastguard. ICS manual and OSRL field guides have been provided to Staatsolie/POC and those authorities that have been trained in recent months. Staatsolie/POC have also access to ARPEL guidelines as a member to this regional organization. Other guidelines and technical manuals would be available through the websites of OSRL and the different conventions that Suriname is known to e.g. IMO, MARPOL, etc.</p>
9.3	What guidelines or technical manuals does your country use in regards to pollution response (title & author)?	As above.
9.4	How does your country stay informed of the latest response guidelines or obtain updates to the technical manuals (seminars, internet, personal relationships)?	<p>MAS website and newsletters. IMO docs. Mainly individual ICS and OSRL contacts of the specialist groups (e.g. in MAS, NCCR, NIMOS, etc). Not necessarily at country level (all relevant/affected ministries). NB: there is much room for improvement in the wider and more regular sharing of information.</p>
9.5	How does your country access these updates (mail order, internet, seminars)?	

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9.6	<p>Which of these topics would your country need more guidance on?</p> <p><i>Note: Please be specific and add more comments if necessary.</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Assessment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sensitivity Maps <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response Techniques (conventional / alternative) <input type="checkbox"/> National Contingency Plan <input type="checkbox"/> MARPOL (specify Annex)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waste Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ballast Water Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anti-fouling Systems <input type="checkbox"/> International Cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research & Development <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ...
9.7	Why did you choose these topics?	To raise awareness and to train the relevant stakeholders in taking the appropriate actions in case of an incident.	
9.8	How would you like these topics to be presented (technically, practically, theoretically, etc.)?	All, depending on the situation and needs.	
9.9	What are your expectations from the international technical groups?	Sometimes training, teleconference or email contact. Availability for advice as needed.	
9.10	Additional comments?		

10. Expectations

10.1	During an actual oil spill situation, what are your response expectations at each of the below levels (i.e. initial intervention, organization, coordination, equipment, waste management, compensation, etc.)?	
	TIER 1	Staatsolie/POC Block IV project specifically including the contractors, have committed to respond effectively, and will ensure that systems/resources are in place for such.
	TIER 2	Staatsolie/POC: as above, with careful monitoring to avoid escalation. In case this is identified we will engage with OSRL immediately.

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	TIER 3	Need external support. In Staatsolie/POC case this will be through OSRL.
10.2	What are your expectations in regards to bilateral or multilateral agreements?	Suriname should anticipate and get this in place, considering Suriname can not only affect but can be affected by neighbor's incidents.
10.3	What are your expectations in regards to the Caribbean Island OPRC Plan?	Any plan being in place, is better than nothing. Good to start and then to ensure regular exercises, training to test and continuously improve the plan.
10.4	Additional comments?	This questionnaire is a great initiative. Countries/champions team and decision makers should help ensure relevant parties at national level are informed and actions are taken.