



RITAG meeting 2022 Concept Note and Agenda Update

Background:

A comprehensive survey was carried out before the RITAG 2021 meeting among members to gather feedback with regards to their assessment of RITAG and potential future challenges. All members agree that the current objectives of RITAG aligns well to the needs of each individual organisations, but most sees a need to expand on the current roles and objectives of RITAG to meet future challenges faced by the industry.

To recap, the objectives of RITAG is to provide a platform for like-minded oil spill response organisations in Asia to:

1. Share technical knowledge, oil spill response experience and best practices
2. Promote the industry's "Tiered Preparedness and Response Concept" and
3. Facilitate co-operation between its members.

Four areas have been identified where the members see significant impact to their organisations within the next five years:

- A. COVID-19
- B. Alternative fuels e.g., LNG/LPG and LSFO
- C. Rising sentiments on environmental protection / stricter environmental regulation
- D. Other forms of marine pollution e.g., HNS

On COVID-19

It has long been recognised and demonstrated from past incidents, that no one single country can provide and sustain all the resources that is required during a Worst Credible Scenario (WCS), hence partly why the Tiered Preparedness and Response (TPR) philosophy exists. Recently, we have seen incidents such as the Deepwater Horizon, Pertamina incident and X-Press Pearl incident and many others, requiring international support during the response. Therefore, international cooperation remains one of the key aspects of oil spill preparedness and response and is recognised by both IMO (see OPRC Article 7 International cooperation in pollution response) and IPIECA.

The global pandemic did, and continues to cause, additional challenges in this area, due to the enhanced restrictions in personnel movement. With the re-opening of borders in most countries, it is timely to explore how RITAG, as a collective, can strengthen international response cooperation by revisiting the Tiered Preparedness and Response (TPR) philosophy, developed by the Oil Spill Response Joint Industry Project (OSR-JIP) after the Macondo incident.

The effective application of TPR philosophy hinges on the:

- a) Understanding of the Worst Credible Scenario (WCS) based on the unique spill risk
- b) Assessment to identify suitable response strategies for the identified WCS that is aligned with the shared values among the local key stakeholders. Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment (SIMA), which is based on the concept of Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA), is developed by the industry to facilitate the discussion among the identified stakeholders to achieve a consensual agreement.

With the inputs from (a) and (b), TPR philosophy can be implemented effectively.

The core principle of TPR philosophy is essentially to provide suitable resources, at the right place and time. It aims to promote the effective use of response resources (both locally, regionally, and internationally) through

cascading across the different tiers and complements international cooperation under Article 7 of the OPRC by providing a clear framework for discussion and planning.

The TPR wheel below in Figure 1 best illustrates the philosophy where the 15 response capabilities required for any response are identified and centres around the Incident Management System (IMS) which coordinates the response resources to achieve the incident objectives. The differentiated colours within each segment represents the tiers where the resources will come from (Tier 1 in dark blue, Tier 2 in green and Tier 3 in light blue)

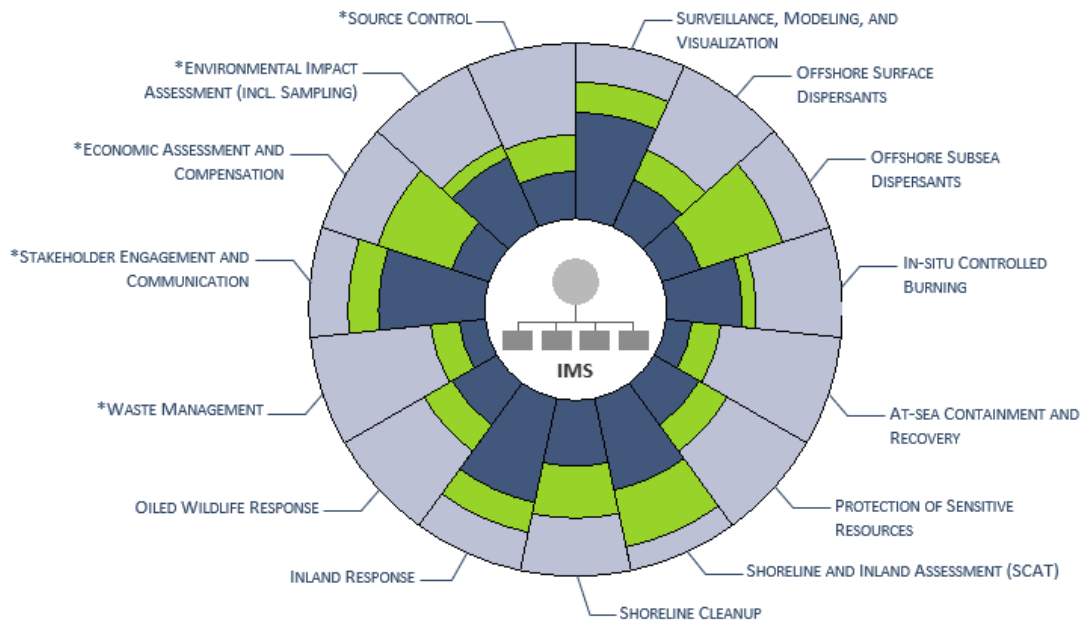


Figure 1: Tiered Preparedness and Response Wheel

Working on the identified suitable response strategies from (b), the next actions will follow a logical sequence where response planners:

1. Identify where these resources required for the response capabilities are going to come from, primarily from the facility level (Tier 1) and regional level (Tier 2)
2. Identify the required international support (Tier 3)
3. Understand the barriers of mobilising resources across Tier 1, 2 and 3 and plan actions to overcome the barriers and expedite the mobilisation of these resources through engagement with key stakeholders.

On Rising sentiments on environmental protection / stricter environmental regulation

The industry faces immense pressure during an incident, from both local government and community. Stakeholder engagement, one of the response capabilities listed in the Tiered Preparedness and Response concept, can be an effective tool to relieve this pressure by engaging key stakeholders before the incident occurs. Through proactively engaging the key stakeholders, the industry can communicate accurately on matters relating to oil spill, clarify perspectives and create opportunities for cooperation, leading to a more effective response and better outcomes for all key stakeholders.

On Alternative fuels and other forms of marine pollution

We observed recent incidents involving LSFO (Wakashio, Crimson Polaris), HNS (X-Press Pearl – Plastic nurdles). Discussions during the remote steering committee meeting revealed a majority interest among members in Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) and Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (LSFO) due to the potential challenges it poses during a response. The Secretariat proposed to set up Technical Working Group in these two areas to



explore potential cooperation within RITAG (more details below). Other topics of interest include marine litter and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) / Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) which can be considered for sharing, on a priority basis.

Moving forward, the Secretariat proposes to integrate the four identified areas of concern into future RITAG meeting as we collectively explore means to collaborate and address these challenges.



RITAG Meeting 2022 in Vung Tau, Vietnam:

Location: Imperial Hotel, Vung Tau

Date: 8 – 10 Nov

Event summary:

The RITAG 2022 meeting is expected to last 2.5 days, commencing on the afternoon of 8th Nov 2022. A summary of the programme as follows:

- 8 Nov (PM): Technical Sharing (Part I)
- 9 Nov (AM): Technical Sharing (Part II)
- 9 Nov (PM): Steering Committee meeting
- 10 Nov (PM): R&R activity

Technical sharing

Members, as a collective, benefit from technical sharing sessions through active sharing of knowledge & experience and friendly exchanges on views. This enables collective mutual learning as we distil the key lessons learnt and bring them back to our individual organisations.

This year, as we expand the scope to HNS and LSFO, RITAG members are encouraged to share on Recent incident case studies and lessons learnt, Advances & good practices in: “Operational safety”, “Response techniques (e.g., shoreline clean-up, at sea containment & recovery, incident management)”, “Maintaining response readiness with focus on people (training), equipment (maintenance) and process” and “Stakeholder engagement”, in alignment to the four areas of challenges identified in the remote meeting held in 2021.

External speakers may be invited to share specific topics such as HNS, LSFO and other topics of interest which has a majority interest from RITAG members and agreed on previous year’s meeting.

List of topics till date [18th Oct 2022]

- COES: Response Strategies to marine HNS incidents & Case study on ship collision incident in Qingdao 2021
- PIMMAG: Oil Spill Response Preparedness for Domestic and Regional During an Oil Spill Incident – in Malaysia Perspective
- MDPC: TBC
- KOEM: TBC
- OSCT: TBC
- IESG: Update of discussion on Notification 134/2021 between oil industry and government
- PVDO: Response to containership incidents
- OSRL: Technical Updates



Steering committee meeting

The meeting aims to follow up on the actions from the previous meeting in 2021 and provides an opportunity for RITAG members to table new agenda for discussion. A white paper should be submitted to the Secretariat, in advance of the meeting, if there be an interest to raise a new agenda for discussion. Lastly, RITAG steering committee will also plan ahead and solicit recommendations for the host and theme for the next RITAG meeting in 2023.

Programme Agenda

Day 1: 8 Nov 2022 (PM) – Technical Sharing Part I

S/N	Start time	End time	Duration	Description	Speaker	Remarks
1	1300	1310	10	Opening Address – Host	PVDO	Introduction to PVDO included
2	1310	1320	10	Round Table Introduction	All	
2	1320	1330	10	Theme Address – Permanent Secretariat	OSRL	
3	1330	1340	10	Agenda Introduction for the three-day event	OSRL	
4	1340	1400	20	Introduction to PVDO	PVDO	
5	1400	1445	45	Oil Spill Response Preparedness for Domestic and Regional During an Oil Spill Incident – in Malaysia Perspective	PIMMAG	
6	1445	1530	45	Update of discussion on Marine Dept. Notification 134/2021 between oil industry and government & Use of Dispersant in GoT	IESG	
7	1530	1540	10	Networking Break	All	Refreshments provided
8	1540	1625	45	Case study – Ship Collision in Qingdao, China (2021)	COES	
9	1625	1710	45	Digital Transformation in Oil Spill Response	KOEM	
10	1710	1720	10	Closing for Day 1		Reminder for Day 2

Day 2: 9 Nov 2022 (AM) – Technical Sharing Part II

S/N	Start time	End time	Duration	Description	Speaker	Remarks
1	0830	0845	15	Refreshments and coffee break	All	
2	0845	0930	45	Investigation and monitoring of stranded LSFO after an oil spill incident	MDPC	
3	0930	1015	45	TBC	OSCT	
4	1015	1030	15	Networking break		Refreshments provided
5	1030	1115	45	Response to containership incidents	PVDO	
6	1115	1200	45	Technical updates on Herders / HNS / LSFO / SWIS / Wildlife Response	OSRL	
7	1200	1300	60	Lunch	All	Lunch provided at the hotel



Day 2: 9 Nov 2022 (PM) – Steering Committee Meeting

S/N	Start time	End time	Duration	Description	Speaker	Remarks
1	1300	1330	30	Recap of discussions during RITAG 2021 remote meeting	TBC	
2	1330	1345	15	Mutual Personnel Assistance Framework*	TBC	Follow up from 2021 actions
3	1345	1415	30	Enhancing response capabilities through collaborative projects between RITAG members*	TBC	Follow up from 2021 actions
4	1415	1445	30	Technical Working Group – HNS*	TBC	Follow up from 2021 actions
5	1445	1500	15	Technical Working Group – LSFO*	TBC	Follow up from 2021 actions
6	1500	1515	15	Networking Break	TBC	Refreshments provided
7	1515	1545	30	Proposal for new agenda discussion Expression of interest to be announced in next communication All members are welcomed to table new agenda discussion (paper to be submitted to Secretariat and disseminated to the group before the meeting)	TBC	This segment will be skipped if there's no new agenda
8	1545	1600	15	Hosting organisation for RITAG 2023	TBC	
9	1600	1615	15	Technical sharing agenda for RITAG 2023	TBC	
10	1615	1630	15	Close of meeting	TBC	

*The summary of discussion during the remote steering committee meeting held in 2021 can be found below.

Day 3: 10 Nov 2022 (Full Day) – R&R activity



Summary of discussions from 2021 RITAG steering committee meeting:

Agenda	Objectives	Areas	Elaboration on Agenda
1	1	A - D	<p>Technical Sharing</p> <p>Members, as a collective, benefit from technical sharing sessions through active sharing of knowledge & experience and friendly exchanges on views. This enables collective mutual learning as we distil the key lessons learnt and bring them back to our individual organisations.</p> <p>This year, as we expand the scope to HNS and LSFO, RITAG members are encouraged to share on areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent incident case studies and lessons learnt - Advances / Good practices in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Operational safety o Response techniques (e.g., shoreline clean-up, at sea containment & recovery, incident management) o Maintaining response readiness with focus on people (training), equipment (maintenance) and process o Stakeholder engagement <p>-</p>
2	1	A - D	<p>[Agenda 4B in 2021 meeting] Invitation of experts / academia to RITAG meeting, raised by KOEM</p> <p>All members agree to this objective and be brought forward to RITAG meeting in 2022. In addition to the suggestion in 2019, several new suggestions were made to invite experts from the LNG/LPG industry, cold weather response. MDPC offered to share more on response to HNS, including crude oil.</p> <p><i>Action: Define theme and topics of interest for RITAG meeting 2022.</i></p> <p>- <i>Previously discussed topics included: LNG / LPG, cold weather response, HNS (OSRL / MDPC), VLSFO (Shell or other experts)</i></p>
3	2	A	<p>[Agenda 4A in 2021 meeting] Mutual Personnel Assistance Framework</p> <p>Due to regional differences in legislation and challenges in obtaining stakeholder approvals, it is difficult to achieve a consensus among the RITAG members to agree on a single agreement. However, this agreement will remain useful for organisation/s who wish to pursue this bilaterally or sub-regionally e.g., within North Asia or Gulf of Thailand sub-region.</p> <p><i>Action: Review the mutual personnel assistance framework to ensure its applicability in the different case use above.</i></p>

4	2	A	<p>[Agenda 4C in 2021 meeting] Enhancing response capabilities through collaborative projects between RITAG members, raised by OSRL</p> <p>PVDO suggests setting up a platform to share information e.g., process for work permit application, logistics plan to prepare for the arrival of resources. PIMMAG agreed to PVDO’s comments and mentioned that Malaysia is in the middle of preparing an SOP for bringing in resources from overseas, which was discussed during a transboundary exercise with the relevant government authorities</p> <p><i>Action:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Logistics: Developing a draft template document to contain essential information necessary for the movement of people and resources across borders. The template will be circulated among Members for comments and feedback in 2022. The information will be shared on RITAG website, accessible to all Members.</i> - <i>Recommended information required:</i> <table border="1" data-bbox="624 608 1691 914"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="624 608 1144 647">Equipment</th> <th data-bbox="1144 608 1691 647">Personnel</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="624 647 1144 762"><i>Information about importing entity e.g., address, contact details (number and email address)</i></td> <td data-bbox="1144 647 1691 762"><i>Requirements of Letter of Invitation / Sponsorship Letter (draft template can be developed for use among RITAG members)</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="624 762 1144 839"><i>Information on third party logistics (if any) e.g., address, contact details</i></td> <td data-bbox="1144 762 1691 839"><i>Official website for the application of entry visas, work permit etc.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="624 839 1144 914"><i>Customs requirements including generic and other specific import requirements</i></td> <td data-bbox="1144 839 1691 914"><i>Other specific requirements for in-field work e.g., offshore certifications etc.</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Equipment	Personnel	<i>Information about importing entity e.g., address, contact details (number and email address)</i>	<i>Requirements of Letter of Invitation / Sponsorship Letter (draft template can be developed for use among RITAG members)</i>	<i>Information on third party logistics (if any) e.g., address, contact details</i>	<i>Official website for the application of entry visas, work permit etc.</i>	<i>Customs requirements including generic and other specific import requirements</i>	<i>Other specific requirements for in-field work e.g., offshore certifications etc.</i>
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5	3	B & D	<p>[Agenda 2A in 2021 meeting] Technical Working Group for HNS / LSFO</p> <p><i>Action: Disseminate draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the technical working group in HNS / LSFO for Member’s comments and further assessment on the decision to join the working group.</i></p> <p><u><i>Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS)</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Build understanding on regional risk and response capability within Asia Pacific region through information sharing and joint studies</i> - <i>Identify response gaps (personnel, equipment, and other ancillary support) and potential area of collaboration for an efficient and effective regional response</i> 								

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Expand technical knowledge of emergency response through technical sharing, exchanges, exercises, and discussions with other stakeholders.</i> <p><u><i>Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil / Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO / LSFO)</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Based on OSRL’s understanding, there is little progress made on understanding the characteristics LSFO (SINTEF has published a study on LSFO a few years ago and there’s an ongoing study from European Commission. Therefore, the Secretariat proposes to postpone the setup of TWG for LSFO until there’s more information available. However, Members are encouraged to share their experience on LSFO in spills / exercises.</i> - <i>Postponed:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Build understanding on characteristics of LSFO / VLSFO and the spill risk within Asia Pacific Region.</i> ○ <i>Identify response gaps (personnel, equipment, and other ancillary support) and potential area of collaboration for an efficient and effective regional response.</i> ○ <i>Expand technical knowledge of emergency response through technical sharing, exchanges, exercises, and discussions with other stakeholders.</i>
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List of Participants:

S/N	Organisation	Name of Participant	Mode of participation	Position / Title
1	IESG	Ms. Kanthamat Kritayanukul	Physical	Chairman
2	IESG	Ms. Paelin Kunjaethong	Physical	Assistant to Chairman
3	IESG	Dr. Anekpracha Kaewmanee	Physical	Assistant to Chairman
4	IESG	Capt. Teerapol Phaparkhorn	Physical	Division Manager (Movement and Dispatching Operations) - PTTGC
5	IESG	Mr. Wallop Yammeuan	Physical	General Manager
6	PIMMAG	Capt. Zalina Bte Sungip	Physical	General Manager
7	PIMMAG	Mr. Amir Yusof	Physical	Operations Manager
8	OSRL	Mr. Darren Waterman	Physical	Regional Director - Asia Pacific region
9	OSRL	Mr. James Tan	Physical	Industry Engagement Lead - Asia Pacific
10	OSCT	Mr. Yodi Satya	Remote	
11	OSCT	Ms. Pratiwi Dwinanti	Remote	
12	OSCT	Ms. Novelina Stephanie	Remote	
13	KOEM	Mr. Kim Kwangmin	Physical	Deputy General Manager, Response Planning Department
14	KOEM	Ms. Joo Won Lee	Physical	Assistant Manager, KOEM Prevention and Response Operation Department
15	MDPC	Mr. Masanori Ozawa	Remote	
16	MDPC	Mr. Takahiro Hagihara	Remote	Director, Disaster Prevention Department
17	MDPC	Mr. Seiichi Hamada	Remote	Deputy Manager, International Business and HAZMAT Service Div.
18	MDPC	Mr. Hideomi Kakimoto	Remote	
19	MDPC	Ms. Ayako Kodama	Remote	
20	MDPC	Mr. Tomohiro Matsuda	Remote	
21	COES	Mr. Wu Liang	Remote	Deputy General Manager
22	COES	Mr. Guo En Yue	Remote	Technical Manager
23	COES	Mr. Wan Li Ge	Remote	Technical Manager
24	COES	TBC - Mr. Yin Jian Guo	Remote	General Manager
25	COES	TBC - Mr. Zhu Xi	Remote	Training Manager
26	COES	TBC - Mr. James Zhang	Remote	Advisor to COES

