



OSPAR Recommendation 2023/02 amending OSPAR Recommendation 2010/20 on an OSPAR Framework for Reporting Encounters with Conventional and Chemical Munitions in the OSPAR Maritime Area

(Source: OSPAR 23/17/01, Annex 14)

Preamble

RECALLING Article 2(1) of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (“the OSPAR Convention”),

RECALLING Annex V to the OSPAR Convention on the protection and conservation of the ecosystems and biological diversity of the maritime area, and in particular its Article 3(1)(b)(ii), which makes it a duty of the OSPAR Commission to develop means, consistent with international law, for instituting protective, conservation, restorative or precautionary measures related to specific areas or sites,

RECALLING OSPAR Recommendation 2010/20 on an OSPAR Framework for Reporting Encounters with Conventional and Chemical Munitions in the OSPAR Maritime Area,

WISHING to update OSPAR Recommendation 2010/20 to reflect changes in agreed reporting methods and to promote cooperation on risk assessment,

Contracting Parties to the OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic RECOMMEND:

1. Purpose and scope

1.1 The purpose of this Recommendation is to amend and update OSPAR Recommendation 2010/20 on an OSPAR Framework for Reporting Encounters with Conventional and Chemical Munitions in the OSPAR Maritime Area to reflect changes in agreed reporting methods and to promote cooperation on risk assessment.

2. Provisions

Preamble

2.1 In the Preamble of Recommendation 2010/20, the 3rd paragraph is amended as follows:

RECALLING that the OSPAR Quality Status Report 2010 and the Assessment of the Impact of Dumped Conventional and Chemical Munitions (publication 365/2008 (update 2009)) have concluded that the vast amounts of dumped munitions in the sea are a historical legacy representing a risk to fishermen, other coastal users and marine species and TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the experience gained in applying OSPAR Recommendation 2010/20 on an OSPAR Framework for Reporting Encounters with Conventional and Chemical Munitions in the OSPAR Maritime Area,

2.2 In the Preamble of Recommendation 2010/20, a new 5th paragraph is added as follows:

BEING AWARE of research projects, for example, DISARM (Dumpsites of munitions: Integrated Science Approach to Risk and Management) and Interreg North Sea Wrecks in the OSPAR Maritime Area and DAIMON (Decision Aid for Marine Munitions) in other regions like the Baltic, which aim to provide a framework for the risk assessment of conventional and chemical munitions in dumping sites and ship wrecks,

2.3 In the Preamble of Recommendation 2010/20, the 7th paragraph is amended as follows:

NOTING that the OSPAR Commission has created, will maintain, and continue to make available to the public, a database of encounters with conventional and chemical munitions.

Purpose and scope

2.4 In Section 2 (Purpose and scope) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 2.1.1 is amended as follows:

2.1.1 to promote the reporting of encounters with conventional and chemical munitions by fishers, divers, surveyors, dredgers and any other users of the sea and its coastline,

Programmes and measures

2.5 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 3.1a is amended as follows:

a. fishers, divers, surveyors, dredgers and any other users of the sea and its coastline can readily report to an appropriate authority or body any encounters at sea or on the coastline with conventional or chemical munitions, and are encouraged to do so;

2.6 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 3.2 is amended as follows:

3.2 Contracting Parties should report the information collected under these systems by their central points to the OSPAR Commission as specified in paragraph 5.2. Only encounters that occur within Contracting Parties' own jurisdiction should be reported. Encounters in areas beyond national jurisdiction should be reported by the flag state of the vessel involved.

2.7 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 3.3 is amended as follows:

3.3 Contracting Parties should report encounters which occur within a short period of time to the OSPAR Commission as soon as they are aware of these encounters and not wait until the next report is due to be submitted to the OSPAR Commission.

2.8 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendation 2010/20, new paragraphs 3.4 and 3.5 are added as follows:

3.4 Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide information to fishers, divers, surveyors, dredgers and any other users of the sea and its coastline on safe practices when encountering conventional or chemical munitions.

3.5 Within the framework of the OSPAR Commission, Contracting Parties should promote information sharing on munitions in general, especially on environmental risk assessment of conventional and chemical munitions within the OSPAR maritime area with the aim of developing a shared approach.

2.9 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendations 2010/20, paragraph 3.4 is renumbered to 3.6 and amended as follows:

3.6 Contracting Parties which are Member States of the European Union should ensure that systems operated for the purpose of this Recommendation are consistent with the provisions of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Water Framework Directive and related legislation.

2.10 In Section 3 (Programmes and Measures) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 3.5 is renumbered to 3.7.

Section 5 (Implementation reports)

2.11 In Section 5 (Implementation reports) of Recommendation 2010/20, paragraph 5.2 is amended as follows:

- 5.2 Contracting Parties should use the reporting format in Agreement 2023-08 for their reports to the OSPAR Commission.

Appendix

2.12 Appendix 1 is deleted.

3. Entry into force

3.1 This Recommendation has effect from 30 June 2023.