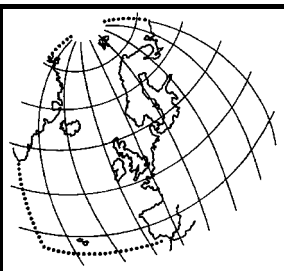
OSPAR Commission
2000



Activities of OSPAR
June 1999-June 2000

Implementation of the
OSPAR Action Plan 1998 – 2003
(Update 1999)

Contents

Introduction

This report covers the activities of the OSPAR Commission (OSPAR) in the period June 1999-June 2000.

The first part gives information on:

a. the OSPAR Convention;

b. governmental and non-governmental observers to OSPAR;

c. working structures and arrangements within OSPAR;

d. cooperation between OSPAR and other international organisations.

The second part summarises the activities of OSPAR carried out in the 1999/2000 intersessional period (June 1999-June 2000) as regards the implementation of the OSPAR Action Plan 1998 – 2003 (update 1999).

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

The 1992 Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic

The 1992 Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (referred to as "the OSPAR Convention") entered into force on 25 March 1998, 30 days after the French Government, being the depository Government for the 1992 OSPAR Convention, had received the last notice of ratification. Contracting Parties to the Convention are: Belgium, Denmark, the European Community, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

At the 1998 Ministerial Meeting of the OSPAR Commission Ministers adopted a new Annex V to the OSPAR Convention concerning the protection and conservation of the ecosystems and biological diversity of the maritime area covered by the Convention, and a related Appendix. Furthermore, an agreement on the meaning of certain concepts used in Annex V was made.

On 30 June 2000, the European Community, Finland, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Spain and the United Kingdom had deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of Annex V and Appendix 3. Annex V and Appendix 3 will enter into force once they have been ratified by at least seven Contracting Parties.

Observers to OSPAR

The following governmental organisations have observer status to OSPAR:

Governmental Organisations with observer status

- Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and the North Seas (ASCOBANS) (ASMO only)
- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) (ASMO only)
- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission)
- Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention)
- Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS) (ASMO only)
- Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of Long-Range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)
- European Environment Agency (EEA) (ASMO only)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (ICPR)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
- Irish Sea Science Coordination Group (ISSCG) (ASMO only)
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Secretariat of the Fifth International Conference on the protection of the North Sea (5NSC)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

The following non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have observer status to OSPAR:

Non-governmental Organisations with observer status

General observers

- Bird Life International
- Friends of the Earth (FOE)
- Greenpeace International
- Seas at Risk
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- Conseil Européen des Fédérations de l'Industrie Chimique (CEFIC)
- International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (OGP) (formerly E&P Forum)

  combined with
- Oil Companies' European Organisation for Environmental and Health Protection (CONCAWE)
- Kommunenes Internasjonale Miljøorganisasjon (the local authorities international environmental organisation) (KIMO)
- Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe (UNICE)

Specialised observers

- Advisory Committee on the Protection of the Sea (ACOPS)
- Central Dredging Association (CEDA)
- Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)
- EURO CHLOR Federation
- European Apparel and Textile Organisation (EURATEX)
- European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries Association (EFPIA)
- European Fertiliser Manufacturers Association (EFMA)
- European Oilfield Speciality Chemicals Association (EOSCA)
- European Soap and Detergent Industry (AISE)
- EUROPECHE, Association of National Fisheries Organisations
- European Union of National Associations of Water Suppliers and Waste Water Services (EUREAU)
- International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH)
- International Navigation Association (PIANC)
- International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy (UNIPEDE)
- Uranium Institute

Working Structures and Arrangements

Organisation

OSPAR 1999 concluded that following the adoption of the five OSPAR strategies, it would be beneficial to adjust the Commission's organisational structure and improve some working practices, in order to promote the implementation of the strategies. As a basis for a new organisational structure, OSPAR concluded that improvement would be most effectively achieved by an organisational structure which ensured that there was a single main second tier subsidiary body principally responsible for the implementation of each core block of work, and, as a rule, reporting directly to the Commission. As the six core blocks of work, OSPAR identified work to implement the five OSPAR strategies and work to implement the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme (JAMP).

With a view to ensuring that interlinkages would remain between the different core blocks of work, OSPAR 1999 agreed to establish a Coordination Committee which met for the first time in May 2000. The operation of the Coordination Committee will be evaluated during the 2000/2001 intersessional period.

OSPAR 2000 finalised the discussion on the Commission's organisational structure with the agreement to establish six new Committees for each of the six core block of work (see figure 1 for details). The Terms of Reference for these Committees will be published on the OSPAR website. Furthermore a number of measures to improve the management of its activities were adopted.

Work programmes

As part of the agreement on the new organisational structure, OSPAR established the basis for a new approach for the management of the work of the six new Committees (the Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee (ASMO), the Biodiversity Committee (BDC), the Eutrophication Committee (EUC), the Hazardous Substances Committee (HSC), the Offshore Industry Committee (OIC), the Radioactive Substances Committee (RSC). Detailed work programmes for these Committees will be adopted in the beginning of the 2000/2001 intersessional period.

OSPAR website and availability of documents

The OSPAR website (http://www.ospar.org) has been a very valuable tool to disseminate information and documentation. The texts of Decisions, Recommendations and other agreements applicable under OSPAR and of Summary records of meetings are now available to the general public.

In addition, the website has eased considerably the distribution of meeting documents, which can be downloaded by Contracting Parties and observer organisations.

Most of OSPAR's and its subsidiary bodies' documents are available to the general public upon request (with a payment towards the cost of

making them available when appropriate). A list of documents submitted to a particular meeting is always provided at Annex 3 of the relevant Summary Record. Orders should be addressed to the Secretariat.

Officers of the Commission

In the period 1999-2000, the following national delegates served as Chairman of OSPAR, ASMO or PRAM, or as Vice-Chairman of OSPAR.

Officers of the OSPAR Commission	
Chairman of OSPAR	
Mr. Alan Simcock (United Kingdom)	1996 – 2000
Vice-Chairmen of OSPAR	
Mr. Bob Dekker (the Netherlands)	1996 – 2000
Mr. David Egilson (Iceland)	1997 – 2000
Chairman of ASMO	
Mr Roland Salchow (Germany)	1997 –
Chairman of PRAM	
Mr Victor Escobar (Spain)	1996 – 2000

OSPAR 2000 elected Mr Bob DEKKER (the Netherlands) as Chairman and Ms Lindis NERBOE (Norway) and Mr Victor ESCOBAR (Spain) as Vice-Chairmen of the Commission for the next two years.

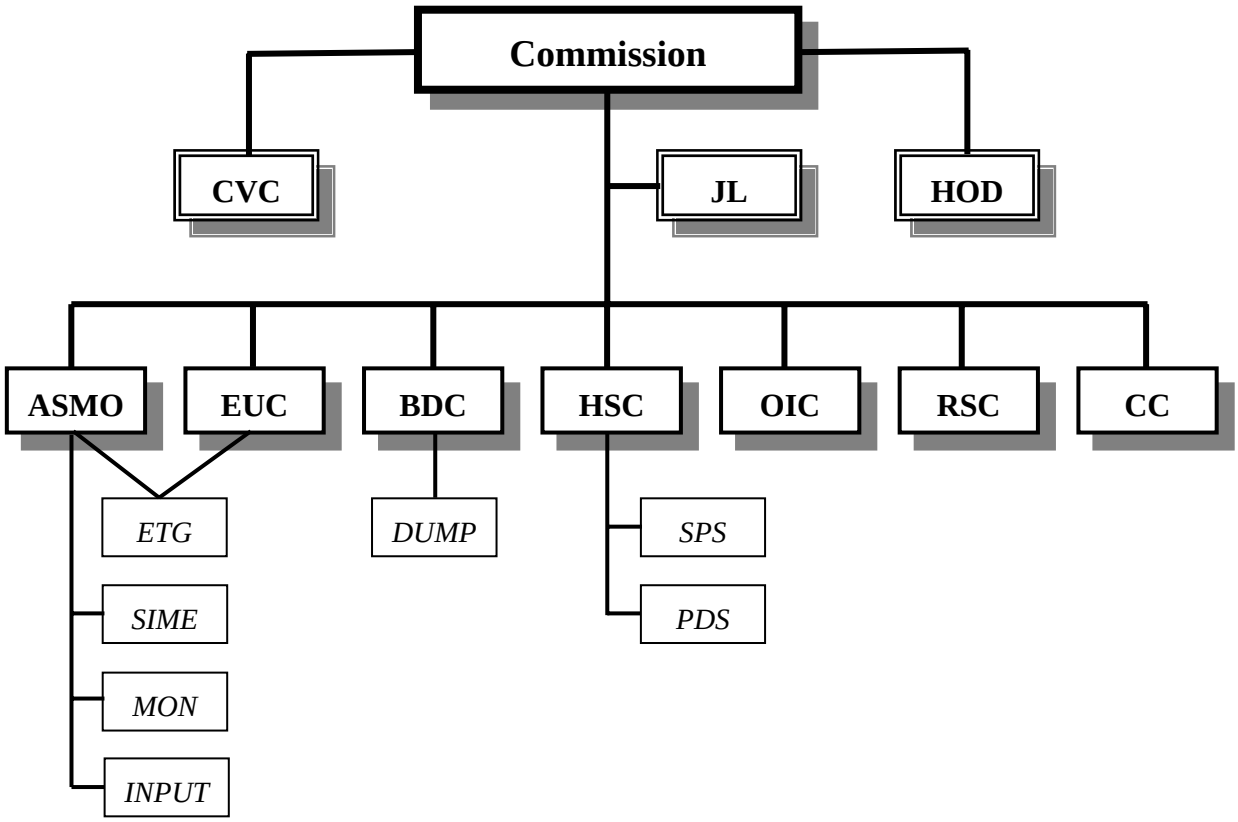
Secretariat

The OSPAR Secretariat is located in London. Staff members of the Secretariat must be a national of a State which is a member of the OSPAR Commission or of a State which is member of the European Union.

Secretariat of OSPAR	
Executive Secretary	
Ben van de Wetering (the Netherlands)	1995 –
Deputy Secretaries	
Stefan Hain (Germany)	1994 – 2000
Gert Verreet (Belgium)	1995 –
Reinier Goud (the Netherlands)	1998 –
Dornford Rugg (United Kingdom)	1998 –
Assistant Secretaries	
Sylvie Ashe (France)	1979 – 1985 and 1989-
Lise Rossi (France)	1988 –
Barbara Middleton (United Kingdom)	1989 –
Hélène Hughes (France)	1990 –1993 and 1995 -
Paula Creedon (Ireland)	1991 –
Corinne Michel (France)	1993 –
Nicola Warden (United Kingdom)	1998 –

OSPAR appointed Ms Amparo AGRAIT (Spain) as Deputy Secretary to replace Mr Stefan Hain, whose contract with OSPAR will expire on 31 August 2000.

Figure 1 Working structure of the OSPAR Commission



Management and advice	**Second tier level**	**Third tier level**
Chairmen and Vice Chairmen (CVC)	Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee (ASMO)	Working Group on Concentrations Trends and Effects of Substances in the Marine Environment (SIME)
Jurists/Linguists (JL)		Ad Hoc Working Group on Monitoring (MON)
Heads of Delegation (HOD)		Working Group on Inputs to the Marine Environment (INPUT)
	Strategy Committees	
	Eutrophication Committee (EUC)	Eutrophication Task Group (ETG)
	Biodiversity Committee (BDC)	Working Group on Dumping (DUMP)
	Hazardous Substances Committee (HSC)	Working Group on Priority Substances (SPS)
		Working Group on Point and Diffuse Sources (PDS)
	Offshore Industry Committee (OIC)	
	Radioactive Substances Committee (RSC)	
	Coordination	
	Coordination Committee (CC)	

Cooperation with other International Organisations

General

OSPAR 1996 adopted an approach for cooperation with and assistance to other international organisations. Cooperation with 'neighbouring' organisations will be intensified. Cooperation with other organisations will be channelled via the UNEP Secretariat for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA).

North Sea Conference

A representative of OSPAR participated as an observer in meetings of the Committee of North Sea Senior Officials (CONSSO).

Close cooperation was established with the Secretariat of the Fifth International Conference on the Protection of the North Sea, in particular regarding the establishment of a report describing progress with the implementation of agreements made at previous North Sea Conferences.

Helsinki Commission

Frequent contacts with the Helsinki Commission aim at improved coordination of activities. Cooperation between the Secretariats continued and information was exchanged to support mutual activities in related fields.

European Environment Agency

Since its inception, the Secretariat participates in meetings of the 'Inter-regional Forum' (IRF) organised by the EEA-European Topic Centre on Marine and Coastal Environment (ETC/MC). Representatives from, *inter alia*, the Helsinki Commission (Baltic Sea), the Barcelona Commission (Mediterranean Sea), the Istanbul Commission (Black Sea), ICES, the IOC, the EEA and the European Topic Centres on Marine and Coastal Environment, Inland Waters, Nature Conservation, Air Emission, Air Quality and Land Cover also participated in the forum.

The third meeting of the IRF identified the following three issues as key points for further action:

a. the availability, access and management of data required for marine environmental assessments in a European context;

b. the development of common indicators as a starting point for developing a closer cooperation of assessment activities;

c. the development of a European wide marine GIS as a tool for assessments.

EMEP

The importance and desirability of collaboration between OSPAR and EMEP (Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe) was confirmed and a programme of work to establish this collaboration was adopted in principle and will be implemented once the necessary resources have become available. The aim of the programme is to improve availability, for OSPAR and for EMEP, of atmospheric monitoring data and information on air concentrations and depositions of heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants and nitrogen across Europe and the OSPAR maritime area and to produce modelling data across the OSPAR maritime area on deposition of heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants and nitrogen contaminants.

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) plays a major role in advising OSPAR on its assessment and monitoring work. The 2000 ICES Work Programme includes the following main elements:

- advice concerning monitoring activities;
- advice concerning quality assurance;
- handling of OSPAR environmental monitoring data;
- ongoing database development for eutrophication effects data.

ICES continues to operate as the centre for data collected under OSPAR's Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme (JAMP) on contaminant concentrations in the water, sediment and biota of the marine environment and data resulting from biological effects monitoring. Arrangements have been made which will enable an upgrading of the ICES database.

Agreement for Cooperation in Dealing with Pollution of the North Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances (Bonn Agreement)

As part of its work on offshore activities, OSPAR has initiated work to examine the possibilities of a closer cooperation between the Bonn Agreement and OSPAR, e.g. on issues related to oil pollution incidents in the North Sea.

PART II: WORK CARRIED OUT

Implementation of the OSPAR Action Plan 1998 – 2003 (Update 1999)

1. General

The 1998 Ministerial Meeting of the Commission adopted strategies to direct its future work in the following four main areas:

a. protection and conservation of ecosystems and biological diversity;
b. hazardous substances;
c. radioactive substances;
d. eutrophication.

As agreed at OSPAR/MMC 1998, OSPAR 1999 adopted a Strategy on Environmental Goals and Management Mechanisms for Offshore Activities.

Progress on actions in these five areas in the 1999-2000 intersessional period are set out in the following chapters of the Annual Report.

A quinquennial review of progress achieved through these actions is addressed in chapter 7. Such a review should take place, for the first time, by the next ministerial meeting of the Commission in 2003. Assessment activities mentioned in the chapters 2-5 should be read in conjunction with chapter 7. The last chapter of the Action Plan sets out actions for co-operation with and assistance to other international organisations.

2. Protection and conservation of ecosystems and biological diversity

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will:	A Workshop on the Criteria for the Selection of Species and Habitats was organised jointly by the Netherlands and Portugal in July 1999 and as a result of this workshop Contracting Parties at IMPACT 1999 were able to agree on criteria for the selection of species and habitats. Further intersessional work will be undertaken with the aim of improving guidance on how to apply the criteria and how to establish lists of habitats and species for protection. An OSPAR/ICES/EEA Workshop on Habitat Classification and Biogeographic Regions hosted by the UK was held in September 1999 and achieved significant progress with regard to habitat classification, biogeographic regions and habitat mapping. It was recognised that considerable further work was necessary on the detail of the classification to ensure the full range of habitats in the OSPAR area was adequately represented. A second OSPAR/ICES/EEA workshop on Marine Habitat Classification will be held in September 2000 to further consolidate the classification.
a. develop and compile criteria and guidance for the selection of species and habitats and apply this for: (i) the compilation of lists of e.g. threatened or declining species and of threatened habitats; (ii) and for the selection of species and habitats which need to be protected;	
b. carry out an assessment of the actual or potential impact of the human activities listed in Appendix 1;	Contracting Parties with Denmark as lead country will consider what further action to undertake with respect to sand and gravel extraction. Work is underway with regard to: a. the preparation of a draft overview document on dredging for navigational purposes outside harbours and proposals for further work on this issue; b. an assessment of available information on how and to what extent coastal protection schemes and land reclamation activities affect coastal habitats, communities and species. Spain as lead country has started to work on a draft of a background document on the characteristics of tourism with the aim of identifying: • whether specific activities would require a further assessment; • possibilities for management. Work on the placement of structures for the exploitation of oil and gas is pending the outcome of the review of OSPAR's working arrangements. OSPAR noted that the Netherlands was no longer in a position to continue acting as lead country for "land reclamation" and, after consideration, concluded that at present there was no Contracting Party in a position to take over that role.
c. carry out an assessment of marine areas which have been adversely affected;	Work on this issue has not yet started.

Action Plan	Activities
d. collect and evaluate information concerning existing protection programmes for marine species and habitats which are already protected;	An inventory of existing Marine Protected Areas is being developed.
e. draw up programmes and measures including, as appropriate:	
(i) a system of specific areas or sites which need to be protected and plans to manage such areas or sites;	(i) Work to establish a project group to implement an OSPAR Programme "Designation and Establishment of a System of Marine Protected Areas in the OSPAR Maritime Area" is underway, and Germany hosted a second workshop on MPAs in June 2000. This work will be carried out in connection with work related to the assessment of species and habitats in need of protection, to habitat classification and biogeographic regions, and to the ecosystem approach.
(ii) control of specific human activities that have an actual or potential adverse impact on species and habitats;	(ii) to (iv) will be developed further depending on the outcome of activities under subparagraphs a.– d. above
(iii) protection of marine species, habitats or ecological processes that appear to be under immediate threat or subject to rapid decline;	
(iv) restoration, where practicable, of marine areas which have been identified as being adversely affected;	
f. develop and implement a biological component of the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme aimed at assessing the status of the biological diversity of the maritime area.	The development of further biological components to the JAMP will need to be considered in the light of e.g. the outcome of the work on the selection criteria and how the need for data can be met. In the activities scheduled by IMPACT 1999, the need for recurrent data collection and handling will be addressed.

3. Hazardous substances

3.1 Selection and prioritisation of hazardous substances

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will:	In accordance with the requirements set out in OSPAR's Strategy with regard to Hazardous Substances, OSPAR has developed a dynamic selection and prioritisation mechanism in order to tackle first the substances and groups of substances which cause most concern (DYNAMEC). This mechanism comprises a variety of criteria, steps and procedures (*inter alia* as regards the initial selection and the ranking of hazardous substances) and provided sound scientific guidance to OSPAR 2000 regarding the selection of further substances for priority action. Furthermore, a draft Framework for a Common OSPAR/EC Approach on Risk Assessment Methodology for the Marine Environment has been developed. This draft framework will provide guidance for Contracting Parties in the 2000/2001 intersessional period in their work to identify the scope and extent of programmes and measures with respect to the new substances chosen by OSPAR 2000 for priority action.
a. give priority to the finalisation, by OSPAR 2000, of the dynamic selection and prioritisation mechanism for hazardous substances (including endocrine disruptors) and will apply this mechanism to substances and groups of substances of concern, including those substances and groups of substances as set out in the 1998 OSPAR List of Candidate Substances at Annex 3 to the OSPAR Strategy with regard to Hazardous Substances;	
b. give priority to the development of programmes and measures for the substances on the OSPAR list of chemicals for priority action (cf. Appendix 2) until the development of the selection and prioritisation mechanism is completed. This Appendix will be updated from time to time on the basis of the results of the application of this mechanism.	Taking into account the first application of the DYNAMEC mechanism, OSPAR 2000 reviewed Annex 2 of the strategy and identified 12 new substances or groups of substances as chemicals for priority action and lead countries for most of these substances (cf. Appendix 2). OSPAR agreed to publish on its website background documents with respect to: a. mercury and organic mercury compounds; b. organic tin compounds; c. musk xylene. Lead countries are preparing draft background documents and, as appropriate, proposals for draft OSPAR measures with respect to: a. polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); b. polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs); c. pentachlorophenol; d. short-chained chlorinated paraffins (SCCP); e. nonylphenol/ethoxylates (NP/NPEs) and related substances; f. brominated flame retardants; g. certain phthalates – dibuthylphthalate and diethylhexylphthalate; h. lead and organic lead compounds; i. polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs) and polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs).

Action Plan	Activities
(continued)	These documents will be examined and finalised in the 2000/2001 intersessional period. Because of the absence of a lead country, similar activities could not be started with respect to cadmium. Work on hexachlorocyclohexane isomers (HCH) will only start in the 2000/2001 intersessional period with Germany as lead country. Nevertheless, information on these substances was compiled in an overview of point and diffuse sources (and their relative contributions) related to all chemicals identified by OSPAR for priority action. This overview will be used as an internal tool, primarily for the purpose of giving qualitative information on hazardous substances identified by OSPAR for priority action and advice for future work.

3.2 Substitution of hazardous substances

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will develop procedures for identifying less hazardous or preferably non-hazardous substitutes for hazardous substances used both on land and offshore. Priority will be given to identifying relevant substitutes for the hazardous substances on the OSPAR list of chemicals for priority action (cf. Appendix 2).	The substitution of hazardous substances (used on land or on offshore installations) by less hazardous, or preferably non-hazardous substances, has been discussed by various OSPAR subsidiary bodies in the 1999/2000 intersessional period. A draft guidance document on the substitution of hazardous chemical substances will be further elaborated during the 2000/2001 intersessional period. The substitution of hazardous substances used offshore is an essential element of the measures adopted at OSPAR 2000 with respect to the use and discharge of offshore chemicals.

3.3 Development of programmes and measures to combat pollution

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will: a. prepare background documents, including descriptions of Best Available Techniques (BAT) and/or Best Environmental Practices (BEP), as a basis for the development of programmes and measures for: (i) the substances and groups of substances listed in the attached Appendix 2; (ii) the sectors listed in the attached Appendix 3;	See also the activities described under section 3.1 and under section 6 (offshore). In addition, OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish a background document concerning: a. the use of pesticides in amenity situations; b. the ecotoxicological evaluation of waste water within whole effluent assessment; Programmes of work have been established for: a. the primary aluminium industry; b. the primary non-ferrous metal industry; c. the chlor-alkali industry; d. shipyards;

Action Plan	Activities
(continued)	e. the examination of EC reference documents for BAT (BREFs) concerning: (i) the chlor-alkali industry; (ii) the primary and secondary iron and steel industry; (iii) the pulp and paper industry; (iv) cooling processes; (v) non-ferrous metals production and processing; (vi) the glass industry.
b. adopt appropriate programmes and measures (including BAT/BEP) for these sectors, sources and substances with a view to continuously reducing discharges, emissions and losses of hazardous substances;	OSPAR 2000 adopted: a. OSPAR Recommendation 2000/1 On Best Environmental Practice (BEP) for the Reduction of Inputs of Agricultural Pesticides to the Environment through the Use of Integrated Crop Management Techniques; b. OSPAR Recommendation 2000/2 On Best Environmental Practice (BEP) for the Use of Pesticides on Amenity Areas; c. OSPAR Recommendation 2000/3 On Emission and Discharge Limit Values for the Manufacture of Emulsion PVC (e-PVC) from Vinyl Chloride Monomer. See also section 6 for measures adopted with respect to the offshore industry. Programmes of work have been agreed for the further development of: a. a draft OSPAR Recommendation on Emission and Discharge Limit Values for Existing Aluminium Electrolysis Plants; b. a draft OSPAR Recommendation/ Decision on Limits for Emissions to the Atmosphere and Discharges into Water from the Primary Non-Ferrous Metal Industry (zinc, copper, lead and nickel works); c. a draft OSPAR BEP Recommendation concerning PAH releases from domestic combustion appliances and creosote treated timber.
c. give special attention to: (i) the development and adoption of programmes and measures for reducing uses of the substances and/or the generation of hazardous substances on the OSPAR list of chemicals for priority action (cf. Appendix 2);	The OSPAR background documents referred to under section 3.1 above will be the basis for carrying forward the drawing up of programmes and measures with respect to hazardous substances listed in Appendix 2. The overview of point and diffuse sources referred to in section 3.1 will be used as an internal tool for the purpose of giving qualitative information on hazardous substances identified by OSPAR for priority action and advice for future work.

Action Plan	Activities
(ii) the need of developing other programmes of work (e.g. as regards diffuse sources of hazardous substances);	In the light of *inter alia* the development of (i) OSPAR background documents, (ii) the overview of point and diffuse sources and (iii) harmonised quantification and reporting procedures (HARP-HAZ project), there is at this stage no need to develop or review a separate specific programme of work on diffuse sources.
d. review OSPAR BAT/BEP measures in accordance with the agreed timetable and taking into account, *inter alia*, the progress achieved in the development of BAT Reference Documents under Council Directive 96/61/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control.	A revised timetable for the review of OSPAR BAT/BEP measures was adopted. This revised timetable takes account of work which is being carried out within the EC as regards the development of BREFs under the IPPC Directive.

3.4 Monitoring

Action Plan	Activities
In accordance with the Commission's Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme (JAMP) and taking into account work in other forums, the Commission will continue to collect qualitative and quantitative data and information to identify environmental problems with regard to hazardous substances and to this end:	
a. establish inputs of hazardous substances to the marine environment for:	
(i) atmospheric inputs, including an inventory of emissions to air and the monitoring of atmospheric pollutants;	The OSPAR database of the Comprehensive Atmospheric Monitoring Programme (CAMP) at the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU) is becoming operational after validation of the data. Selected groups of data are in the process of examination in preparation for assessment.
(ii) riverine inputs and land-based discharges directly into the marine environment differentiating, where possible, anthropogenic inputs;	OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish: a. the data report on the Comprehensive Study on Riverine Inputs and Direct Discharges (RID) in 1997 and in 1998; b. the overview of the results of RID 1997 and 1998.
(iii) discharges and emissions from particular sectors (including offshore installations) or activities (including the dumping of materials);	OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish the following reports: a. Report on Liquid Discharges from Nuclear Installations, 1998; b. Report on Mercury Losses from the Chlor-Alkali Industry, 1998.

Action Plan	Activities
(iv) inputs of selected substances (e.g. via pilot studies to establish a detailed overview);	OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish a report of a Pilot Study on Atmospheric Inputs of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) to the Maritime Area. A programme of work has been established for a pilot study on the riverine inputs of PAHs to the maritime area.
b. monitor hazardous substances in relevant compartments of the marine environment (Coordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme) and, in particular:	The Coordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP) was examined and updated during the 1999/2000 intersessional period on the basis of Contracting Parties reports on their intentions with regard to implementing elements of the CEMP (cf. § 7.1 Assessment and Monitoring).
(i) develop and implement programmes and models to provide suitable monitoring data (e.g. surveys) concerning hazardous substances and their effects in the maritime area*; ** In doing so, the Commission will bear in mind, inter alia, the need for additional protection for North Sea ecosystems, in particular for spawning grounds and nursery areas for fisheries resources.*	Guidance was agreed for Contracting Parties wishing to present a case for opting out of the CEMP, and any cases submitted will be examined for the first time in 2000/2001.
(ii) develop and apply screening methods for hazardous substances not normally monitored particularly those prioritised by the Dynamic Selection and Prioritisation Mechanism for Hazardous Substances (DYNAMEC);	The need for and extent of screening methods for such hazardous substances will be further discussed in the next intersessional period, and promising methods will be identified and a programme of work established aimed at making such methods operational. The pre-screening of substances used and discharged offshore was addressed in the review and re-structure of PARCOM Decision 96/3 (cf. section 6).
(iii) give priority to the development of suitable monitoring and testing techniques for endocrine disruptors;	An overview of research activities/progress on endocrine disrupting chemicals was prepared and will be updated in the next intersessional period with a view to determining a way forward with regard to monitoring and assessment of these substances.
(iv) conduct, on the basis of an intercomparison exercise, a concerted survey of the maritime area to gauge the spatial extent of any adverse effects arising from exposure to endocrine disruptors.	Work on this issue has not yet started.

3.5 Assessment

Action Plan

The Commission will continue to:

a. assess whether there are reasonable grounds for concern with regard to specific hazardous substances (in particular when there is a lack of relevant risk assessment or monitoring data), and will, to the extent possible, initiate immediate programmes to help characterise the risks connected to such substances;

b. compile and consider the development and use of tools and criteria (including guidance for their use) such as:
   (i) background/reference values;
   (ii) ecotoxicological assessment criteria;
   (iii) EQOs and EcoQOs where applicable;
   (iv) statistical techniques and mathematical models;

   for assessing inputs to the maritime area and for evaluating the environmental conditions in sea areas.

Activities

The issue of substances (or groups of substances) which:

a. require a similar approach to substances that are toxic, persistent and liable to bioaccumulate (even if they do not meet all the criteria for toxicity, persistence and bioaccumulation);

b. give rise to an equivalent level of concern;

has been addressed in the development and application of the dynamic selection and prioritisation mechanism for hazardous substances (cf. Section 3.1 above).

OSPAR 2000 adopted a work plan for the development of Ecological Quality Objectives.

OSPAR trend assessment Guidelines are being drafted on the basis of work prepared by INPUT and ICES advice thereon.

Work on the further development of background / reference values and ecotoxicological assessment criteria for hazardous substances, and in particular PAHs will be undertaken in 2000/2001.

4. Radioactive substances

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will:	
a. identify and take the action required by the year 2000 as a result of § 4.1a of OSPAR's Strategy with regard to Radioactive Substances;	OSPAR 2000 adopted a progress report on the implementation of OSPAR's Strategy with regard to Radioactive Substances. This report is based on information from Contracting Parties concerning, *inter alia*, their national policies, different sources of radioactive discharges, the establishment of a baseline situation by which to evaluate progress in implementing the Strategy. The report also contains recommendations for future work and priorities including the review of discharges authorisations, the need to start joint work with other international organisations, e.g. the EC on the MARINA II Study. OSPAR 2000 agreed that these recommendations should be taken into account by the Radioactive Substances Committee (RSC) in the further work of OSPAR with regard to radioactive substances. The study on reprocessing and non-reprocessing options for spent nuclear fuel management, prepared by the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) on request from OSPAR, was examined and discussed at OSPAR 2000. OSPAR recognises that the NEA study was a source of scientific knowledge and provides an important input to the future work of OSPAR on radioactive substances. The findings of the NEA study will assist the Commission in the implementation of the OSPAR Strategy with regard to Radioactive Substances. Furthermore, OSPAR recognised that the NEA study outlined the need for the further development of environmental quality criteria, an issue which was currently being addressed by several international organisations.
b. identify, assess the need for action and prioritise by the year 2003 radioactive substances and/or human activities which give rise for concern about their impact on the marine environment. As a basis for this, the Commission will continue to collect data and information concerning radioactive substances, in particular with regard to inputs from all sources and concentrations and effects in the marine environment. In doing so, the Commission will make full use of the results of the MARINA Project (the radiological exposure of the population of the European Community from radioactivity in North European water – Project "MARINA", EUR 12483). This project will put more emphasis on assessing biological and ecological effects;	Cooperation with the European Community in the context of the update of the MARINA project (the Radiological Exposure of the European Community from Radioactivity in North European Marine Waters) has been established. This cooperation will serve OSPAR's actions with regard to environmental impact assessment as required in PARCOM Recommendation 94/8 and will put more emphasis on assessing biological and ecological effects in the marine environment (including the vulnerability of marine organisms and communities). A draft pilot study of the EC for the update of the MARINA Project was examined. Progress achieved with respect to the update itself will be examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period.

Action Plan	Activities
c. undertake to develop environmental quality criteria for the protection of the marine environment from adverse effects of radioactive substances and report on progress by the year 2003;	Work on this issue has not yet started, but the need for environmental quality criteria has been reaffirmed (see section 4.a).
d. develop programmes and measures, thereby ensuring the application of BAT/BEP, for nuclear sectors and, as appropriate, for non-nuclear sectors with discharges, emissions or losses of radioactive substances (cf. Appendix 3), including, where appropriate, clean technology.	Following the work carried out to establish the progress report on the implementation of OSPAR's Strategy with regard to Radioactive Substances (cf. section 4.a) OSPAR adopted a programme for more detailed work on the implementation of the Strategy with regard to Radioactive substances. This programme provides for the adoption of national plans, the submission of detailed forecasts of how the elimination or reduction of radioactive substances from both nuclear and non-nuclear sources will be achieved, in order to meet the 2020 goal on radioactive discharges, emissions and losses, and the development of collective overview of progress towards this goal. Furthermore, OSPAR adopted OSPAR Decision 2000/1 on Substantial Reductions and Elimination of Discharges, Emissions and Losses of Radioactive Substances, with Special Emphasis on Nuclear Reprocessing. This Decision requires the urgent review of current authorisations for discharges and releases of radioactive substances from nuclear reprocessing plants, with a view to implementing the non-reprocessing option for spent nuclear fuel management at appropriate facilities, and taking preventive measures against pollution from accidents. France and the United Kingdom abstained. Following the examination of reports from three Contracting Parties in the third round of reporting on the implementation of PARCOM Recommendation 91/4, a timetable was set up for further reporting of all other Contracting Parties concerned and the preparation of a draft summary of national reports submitted in this third round. National reports will be established on the basis of revised guidelines for the submission of information about, and the assessment of, the application of BAT in nuclear facilities (adopted by OSPAR 1999). The guidelines are being used, on a trial basis, as the basis for the statement of progress in applying BAT to be made by Contracting Parties every four years in accordance with the requirements set out in PARCOM Recommendation 91/4. Work has continued on the preparation of a draft OSPAR background document and a draft OSPAR Recommendation concerning BAT to reduce radioactive discharges from the phosphate fertiliser industry. Data collection has started as regards discharges of radioactive substances from other non-nuclear sectors with a view to assessing the need for further OSPAR work on these sectors.

Action Plan	Activities
e. examine in the year 2000 the results of a review and assessment of the reprocessing and non-reprocessing options for spent fuel management (carried out by the Nuclear Energy Agency), and in the light of the results of this, to prepare proposals for actions to be initiated/taken in the framework of OSPAR.	The study on reprocessing and non-reprocessing options for spent nuclear fuel management, prepared by the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) on request from OSPAR, was presented and examined at OSPAR 2000 (see also section 4.a).

5. Eutrophication

5.1 Assessment of the eutrophication status

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will:	
a. ensure that the Common Procedure for the Identification of the Eutrophication Status of the Maritime Area (the "Common Procedure") is applied, as a matter of priority, in order to characterise each part of the maritime area as a problem area or a potential problem area or a non problem area with regard to eutrophication;	Progress in implementing the Common Procedure was examined and a meeting on the further development and application of the comprehensive procedure will take place in September 2000.
b. examine, no later than 1999, statements from Contracting Parties on the outcome of the screening procedure (the first step of the Common Procedure), intended to identify those areas which in practical terms are likely to be non-problem areas with regard to eutrophication, but for which there is insufficient information to apply the comprehensive procedure (the second step);	A report on the outcome of applying the screening procedure was finalised, taking into account statements submitted by Contracting Parties to ASMO, OSPAR and NEUT in 1999. The screening procedure, applied to various areas by France, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain and the UK, has yielded useful results enabling the identification of areas that will be subject to the comprehensive procedure, and the major parts of the OSPAR maritime area that in practical terms can be considered as non-problem areas with regard to eutrophication.
c. examine, at a later stage, the reporting by Contracting Parties on the implementation of the comprehensive procedure, an iterative process, which may be applied as many times as necessary, and which should enable a classification of the maritime area, for the first time by the year 2002, in terms of the areas as mentioned in §a. above;	Contracting Parties' reports on progress towards the implementation of the comprehensive procedure will be examined together with progress made by the intersessional working group on the development and the application of common assessment parameters, thresholds, ranges and other quantifications.
Furthermore, the Commission will, as a matter of priority:	
a. carry out an evaluation of the situation in the maritime area that would be expected following the implementation of agreed measures;	Work on this issue has been initiated and will be completed during 2000.
b. compile information on agreed methodologies and monitoring in support of the classification of areas;	The Nutrient Monitoring Programme is ongoing.
c. verify progress and performance of them;	See section 5.2.
d. develop them where they do not already exist.	See section 5.2.

5.2 Development and implementation of measures to combat eutrophication

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will, as a matter of priority:	
a. further develop and adopt harmonised quantification and reporting procedures for nutrients as a basis for transparent, reliable and comparable reports, including relevant sources, basic figures, calculation methods and emissions factors;	OSPAR 2000 adopted OSPAR Guidelines for Harmonised Quantification and Reporting Procedures for Nutrients which will be used on a trial basis to report on existing and any new OSPAR programmes and measures with regard to nutrients with a view to adopting at OSPAR 2003 Harmonised Quantification and Reporting Procedures. As a first step of a stepwise approach, the guidelines will be used for reporting on the implementation of PARCOM Recommendations 88/2 and 89/4.
b. review the implementation of, and reporting on PARCOM Recommendation 88/2 on the Reduction in Inputs of Nutrients to the Paris Convention Area;	OSPAR 2000 agreed on a procedure for finalising the publication of an overview and assessment of the implementation of PARCOM Recommendation 88/2.
c. review the implementation of national action plans in the context of PARCOM Recommendation 89/4 on a Coordinated Programme for the Reduction of Nutrients;	OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish an overview and assessment of the implementation of national action plans in the context of PARCOM Recommendation 89/4.
d. review the implementation of, and reporting on, any national or international measures as adopted by individual Contracting Parties for the reduction of nutrients in discharges/emissions from industry, sewage treatment plants, agriculture and other diffuse sources. In particular for the agricultural sector, the Commission will carry out an analysis of whether (and in what areas) existing measures and their implementation by Contracting Parties are insufficient or inadequate;	In the intersessional period 2000/2001 a progress report on the outcome of the discussions in the EC Nitrates Directive Committee with regard to the further development of harmonised descriptions of good agricultural practice will be examined. On the basis of this information, it will be examined whether there is a need for additional programmes and measures in agriculture and the way in which this could be best achieved, e.g. by considering the review of PARCOM Recommendation 92/7.
e. evaluate the experience gained and the results achieved with the OSPAR Strategy to Combat Eutrophication (e.g. in the light of the ongoing activities to fulfil the 50% reduction target) by the combined use of information from monitoring, research and modelling against a set of assessment criteria;	A draft report on an evaluation of the situation that is expected following the 50% reduction of nutrients inputs called for in PARCOM Recommendation 88/2 and the development of a predictive (modelling) tool for testing nutrient reduction scenarios will be examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period.
and on this basis:	
f. assess the need for the setting of further reduction targets;	Work on this issue has not yet started.

Action Plan	Activities
g. develop further relevant source-reduction measures needed to complement or update existing measures, *inter alia* by developing BEP for the sectors listed in Appendix 3;	The results of ongoing work on emission inventories concerning nutrient discharges from forestry and from municipal and industrial sewage will be examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period.
h. consider the updating of PARCOM Recommendations 88/2, 89/4 and PARCOM Recommendation 92/7 on the Reduction of Nutrient Inputs from Agriculture into Areas where these Inputs are Likely, Directly or Indirectly, to Cause Pollution.	A review and update of PARCOM Recommendation 92/7 will be considered taking into account experience with the implementation of existing PARCOM Recommendations (see also section 5.2.d.).
In doing so, the Commission will promote good agricultural practice and good housekeeping in industry and sewage treatment.	A progress report on action within the EC with regard to the harmonisation of good agricultural practices will be examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period. A basis for this work is *inter alia* a report with final conclusions and proposals on BEP for nutrient surplus as an indicator for nutrient losses from the agricultural sector to surface waters which has been examined in the 1999/2000 intersessional period.
At a later stage, and taking into account the review of the OSPAR Strategy to Combat Eutrophication and of the quinquennial reports on progress achieved, the Commission will develop and implement more stringent measures in areas where BAT and BEP are insufficient to achieve the targets adopted to combat eutrophication.	Work on this issue has not yet started.

5.3 Monitoring and tools for assessment

Action Plan	Activities
With a view to enabling the application of the Common Procedure, the Commission will:	
a. as a matter of priority, further develop and adopt a set of quantified assessment criteria and means for interrelating them for use in the characterisation of problem areas, potential problem areas and non-problem areas with regard to eutrophication. The Commission will also implement the Nutrient Monitoring Programme, which provides the basis for assessing the eutrophication status;	Contracting Parties' reports on their national monitoring programmes and the implementation of the Nutrient Monitoring Programme will be examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period.

Action Plan	Activities
b. initiate the following actions in the period up to the year 2000:	
(i) develop the appropriate scientific basis and an agreed methodology to derive ecological quality objectives;	OSPAR 2000 adopted a work plan for the development of Ecological Quality Objectives. Work with regard to EcoQOs for nutrients and eutrophication effects parameters is underway.
(ii) develop procedures for the use of information from monitoring, research and modelling as well as for the use of assessment criteria of the Common Procedure;	
c. at a later stage, adopt and apply ecological quality objectives taking into account the review of the OSPAR Strategy to Combat Eutrophication and of the quinquennial reports on progress achieved.	Work on this issue has not yet started.

6. Offshore Activities

6.1 Establishing goals and measures

Action Plan

The Commission will:

a. establish and periodically review environmental goals for offshore activities;

b. assess the extent to which existing programmes and measures meet, or will meet, these environmental goals;

c. where this assessment shows it to be necessary, revise existing measures and/or develop and adopt new measures;

Furthermore, the Commission will promote:

a. the development and implementation by the offshore industry of environmental management mechanisms, including elements for auditing and reporting, which are designed to achieve both continuous improvement in environmental performance and the environmental goals referred to above;

b. the development of BEP guidelines for offshore activities for the purpose of giving effect to the principle of sustainable development.

Activities

OSPAR 1999 had adopted a Strategy on Environmental Goals and Management Mechanisms for Offshore Activities. Due to other priorities, the identification of activities and lines of action to be taken by Contracting Parties to implement this strategy had to be postponed to the next intersessional period. This work will address, *inter alia*, the following requirements of the strategy:

a. the establishment of goals and measures;

b. the prevention and elimination of pollution from offshore sources, taking into account progress achieved at the present meeting;

c. implementation and enforcement.

6.2 Prevention and elimination of pollution

Action Plan

The Commission will develop programmes and measures to identify, prioritise, monitor and control (i.e. to prevent and/or reduce and/or eliminate) the emissions, discharges and losses of substances which reach or could reach the marine environment and which cause, or are likely to cause, pollution. This will include:

a. the completion and improvement of a harmonised mandatory control system for the use and reduction of the discharge of offshore chemicals;

b. drawing up of programmes and measures in relation to the use and discharge of offshore chemicals which are on the OSPAR List of Chemicals for Priority Action (cf. Appendix 2);

c. development of programmes and measures for:

   (i) the reduction of discharges, or substitution, of other chemicals after establishing priority in accordance with paragraph 3.3(a) of the strategy;

   (ii) the reduction of discharges of oil from offshore sources;

   (iii) the reduction of discharges of radioactive substances.

Activities

OSPAR 2000 adopted:

a. OSPAR Decision 2000/2 on a Harmonised Mandatory Control System for the Use and Reduction of the Discharge of Offshore Chemicals;

b. OSPAR Recommendation 2000/4 on a Harmonised Pre-screening Scheme for Offshore Chemicals;

c. OSPAR Recommendation 2000/5 on a Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format (HOCNF);

d. OSPAR Decision 2000/3 on the Use of Organic-Phase Drilling Fluids (OPF) and the Discharge of OPF-Contaminated Cuttings.

With respect to the above measures on offshore chemicals, the following products were adopted:

- OSPAR Guidelines for Completing the Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format (HOCNF)
- OSPAR Guidelines for Toxicity Testing of Substances and Preparations Used and Discharged Offshore
- OSPAR List of Substances / Compounds Liable to Cause Taint.

Furthermore, with respect to the OSPAR List of Substances Used and Discharged Offshore which are Considered to Pose Little or No Risk to the Environment (PLONOR), criteria will be developed in the next intersessional period which could be applied when:

a. deciding in future about substances proposed for inclusion in this list;

b. reviewing the substances on the existing list.

A draft background document and a draft OSPAR Recommendation concerning BAT and BEP for Produced Water Management on Offshore Oil and Gas Installations will be further developed and examined in the 2000/2001 intersessional period.

Programmes of work are also underway concerning:

a. criteria for discharges of drilling fluids and drill cuttings;

b. (re-)injection of drill cuttings and produced water;

c. analysis methods for oil in produced water;

d. emissions from flaring of oil and condensate from well testing.

6.3 Protection and conservation of the maritime area

Action Plan

In line with OSPAR's Strategy on the Protection and Conservation of the Ecosystems and Biological Diversity of the Maritime Area, the Commission will carry out assessments of the potential adverse effects, other than pollution, arising from offshore activities on the ecosystems and biological diversity of the maritime area. Priority will be given to an assessment of:

a. the exploration for oil and gas;
b. the placement of structures for the exploitation of oil and gas;

Activities

In the context of work to be carried out under Annex V and Appendix 3 of the OSPAR Convention (once entered into force), preliminary discussions have been held on the placement of structures for the exploitation of oil and gas.

7. Overall Evaluation and Review of Progress

7.1 Assessment and Monitoring

Action Plan

The Commission will continue to work in accordance with the JAMP. In the period 1998-2000, this will be done with a view to finalising the five regional Quality Status Reports (QSRs) and the convention-wide QSR 2000 in the year 2000. The findings of the QSR 2000 will be taken into account in the quinquennial review of the OSPAR strategies regarding:

a. protection and conservation of ecosystems and biological diversity;
b. hazardous substances;
c. radioactive substances;
d. eutrophication;
e. environmental goals and improved management mechanisms for the offshore oil and gas industry.

Activities

The Coordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP) was examined and updated during the 1999/2000 intersessional period on the basis of Contracting Parties reports on their intentions with regard to implementing elements of the CEMP.

Guidance was agreed for Contracting Parties wishing to present a case for opting out of the CEMP, and any cases submitted will be examined for the first time in 2000/2001.

A Guidance Note on methods and criteria for harmonised sampling and analysis of PAHs in air and precipitation was finalised.

The Voluntary International Contaminant Monitoring for Temporal Trends Programme (VIC) was completed and its implications for future monitoring strategies will be considered in 2000/2001.

OSPAR 1999 adopted a statement on the application of Quality Assurance (QA) procedures to OSPAR data, and work is starting on a review of OSPAR QA procedures.

Draft guidelines on QA procedures for biological monitoring in the OSPAR area were established by the ICES/OSPAR Steering Group on QA of Biological Measurements Related to Eutrophication Parameters (SGQAE), and will be finalised in 2001.

Arrangements were agreed for finalising Guidelines for monitoring methods to be used in the vicinity of offshore oil and gas installations.

Terms of reference and a work plan were established for undertaking work on a joint assessment of inputs to and concentrations in the OSPAR marine environment.

The Regional Task Teams for:

- Region I (Arctic Waters);
- Region II (the Greater North Sea);
- Region III (the Celtic Seas);
- Region IV (The Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast);
- Region V (the Wider Atlantic);

finalised the regional QSRs. These reports were adopted by the Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee at the end of 1999.

OSPAR adopted the Quality Status Report 2000 prepared by the Assessment Coordination Group and the Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee.

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will review the Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme (JAMP) aimed at the adoption of a revised JAMP in the year 2003. This review will take into account: a. experience gained with the present JAMP; b. the results of activities set out in the previous chapters and the QSR 2000; c. the list of human activities at Appendix 1 and the hazardous substances on the OSPAR List of Chemicals for Priority Action (c.f Appendix 2). The revised JAMP will also define activities required to establish further QSRs in the decade following the finalisation of the QSR 2000.	A meeting will be held in September 2000 to identify the scope of a revised JAMP, to establish a framework of the process to be followed in developing it as well as its proposed structure. The aim is to develop the revised JAMP in time for adoption at the next ministerial meeting of OSPAR scheduled for 2003. The JAMP matrix, the list of target products and associated work strategies, was updated taking into account progress made in the preparation of planned products and a number of additions/amendments were made.

7.2 Compliance and effectiveness assessment

Action Plan	Activities
The Commission will: a. assess reports of Contracting Parties on the implementation of programmes and measures adopted under the Convention;	OSPAR 2000 adopted a revised Standard Implementation Reporting and Assessment Procedure. In accordance with the timetable specified in this procedure, Contracting Parties are required to submit reports on their implementation of OSPAR Decisions and Recommendations. These national implementation reports will be summarised by lead countries with a view to being assessed by the appropriate OSPAR subsidiary body and, as appropriate, published by OSPAR.
b. assess the effectiveness of these programmes and measures with a view to improving the protection of the marine environment.	Most Decisions and Recommendations applicable under OSPAR have, in addition to a format for reporting on compliance, a dedicated implementation report format to assess their effectiveness. The draft overview assessments of implementation reports prepared by lead countries are intended to give an indication, where appropriate, of the effectiveness of the measure in quantifiable terms with respect to the fields addressed by the measure, such as trends in discharges, emissions and losses of relevant contaminants from the source/sector concerned. OSPAR 2000 agreed to publish a series of overview assessments of implementation reports for the following measures: a. PARCOM Recommendation 87/1 on the Use of Tributyltin Compounds and PARCOM Recommendation 88/1 on Measures to Reduce Organotin Compounds reaching the Aquatic Environment through Docking Activities;

(continued)

b. PARCOM Recommendation 88/2 on the Reduction in Inputs of Nutrients to the Paris Convention Area, subject to a written procedure by the Chairman to resolve a reservation of Germany;

c. PARCOM Recommendation 89/4 on a Coordinated Programme for the Reduction of Nutrients;

d. PARCOM Decision 95/2 on Discharge and Emission Limit Values for the Integrated and Non-Integrated Sulphite Paper Pulp Industry;

e. PARCOM Decision 95/3 on Discharge and Emission Limit Values for the Integrated and Non-Integrated Kraft Pulp Industry;

f. PARCOM Decision 96/2 on the Phasing-Out of Processes Using Molecular Chlorine (Cl_2) in the Bleaching of Kraft and Sulphite Pulp;

g. PARCOM Recommendation 96/4 for the Phasing Out of the use of One-Component Coal Tar Coating Systems for Inland Ships.

8. International cooperation

Action Plan

The Commission will develop further action with regard to international cooperation. In particular cooperation with "neighbouring" organisations will be intensified. Cooperation with other international organisations will be channelled via the UNEP Secretariat for the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA).

Activities

OSPAR agreed to develop, together with the UNEP/GPA Coordination Office, proposals for cooperation with West and Central African Region (WACAF) under the Abidjan Convention.

Appendices to the OSPAR Action Plan 1998 – 2003 (Update 1999)

Appendix 1

Human activities to be assessed with regard to their impact on the marine environment, its species, habitats and biological diversity

	Human Activity	**Lead Country**
1.	Sand and gravel extraction	Denmark
2.	Dredging for navigational purposes, other than within harbours	The Netherlands
3.	Placement of structures for the exploitation of oil and gas	Norway
4.	Construction or placement of artificial islands, artificial reefs, installations and structures	Spain and the UK
5.	Land reclamation	
Activities for assessment at a later date		
1.	Exploration for oil, gas and solid minerals	
2.	Placement of cables and pipelines	
	An assessment of this activity will include an assessment of the scope for action under other international law	
3.	Tourism and recreational activities	
	These activities will be examined with the aim of identifying whether specific activities within this group would require a further assessment	
4.	Introduction of alien or genetically modified species, whether deliberately or unintentionally	

Appendix 2

I. Hazardous Substances and Groups of Hazardous Substances Identified for the Purpose of the Development of Programmes and Measures

Further information about the work carried out under OSPAR with respect to these substances or group of substances is given in the work programmes of OSPAR's third tier working groups.

Substance (or groups of substances) given in bold were identified by OSPAR 1998 for priority action (cf. Annex 2 of the OSPAR Strategy with regard to Hazardous Substances).

	Substances and groups of substances	Lead Country
1.	**PCBs**	Belgium and Germany
	PCB substitutes	Germany
	PCBs in small units	Belgium
2	**PAHs**	Norway
	Releases from domestic combustion appliances	Norway
	Releases from creosote treated timber	Norway
3	**Pentachlorophenol (PCP)**	Finland
4.	**Short chained chlorinated Paraffins**	Sweden
5.	**Mercury and organic mercury compounds**	United Kingdom
6.	**Organic tin compounds**	The Netherlands
7.	**Nonylphenols/ethoxylates (NP/NPEs) and related substances**	Sweden
8.	**Musk xylene**	Switzerland
9.	**Brominated flame retardants**	Sweden
10.	**Certain phthalates – Dibuthylphthalate and Diethylhexylphthalate**	Denmark and France
11.	**Lead and organic lead compounds**	Norway
12.	**Polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs)** and **Polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs)**	Denmark & Belgium
13.	**Hexachlorocyclohexane isomers (HCH)**	Germany
14.	**Cadmium**	**
15.	Pesticides	
	Agricultural	UK
	Non agricultural	UK
16.	Substances suspected to have endocrine or hormone like effects – e.g. other alkylphenols, certain phthalates and certain pesticides	Denmark
17.	Medium and long-chained chlorinated paraffins	Germany
18.	Offshore substances	Denmark

II. Chemicals for priority action identified at OSPAR 2000

	CAS No	Name	IUPAC name	Lead country
1.	732-26-3	dodecylphenol	phenol, 2,4,6-tris(1,1-dimethylethyl)-	**
2.	115-32-2	dicofol	benzenemethanol, 4-choro-.alpha.-(4-chlorophenyl)-.alpha.-(trichloromethyl)-	**
3.	115-29-7	endosulphan	6,9-methano-2,4,3-benzodioxathiepin, 6,7,8,9,10,10-hexachloro-1,5,5a,6,9,9a-hexahydro-,3-oxide	Germany
4.	72-43-5	methoxychlor	benzene,1,1'-(2,2,2-trichloroethylidene)bis(4-methoxy	**
5.	140-66-9	octylphenol	phenol, 4-(1,1,3,3,tetramethylbutyl)-	United Kingdom
6.	107-46-0	HMDS	disiloxane, hexamethyl-	France
7.	77-47-4		1,3-cyclopentadiene, 1,2,3,4,5,5-hexachloro-	the Netherlands
8.	79-94-7	TBBA	phenol, 4,4'-(1-methylethylidene)bis[2,6-dibromo-	United Kingdom
9.	120-82-1	1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	benzene, 1,2,4-trichloro-	Belgium, Flemish Region, on the condition that a co-lead be found
10.	87-61-6	trichlorobenzene	benzene, 1,2,3-trichoro-	
11.	108-70-3	1,3,5-trichlorobenzene	benzene, 1,3,5-trichloro-	
12.	98-51-1	4-tert-butyltoluene	benzene, 1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-methyl-	**

** These substances have currently no lead country to further the work within OSPAR and will have to be considered at a later date.

Appendix 3

Sectors and activities identified for the purpose of the development of programmes and measures

Sectors	Lead Country	Third tier working group
1. Chlor alkali industry	Spain	POINT
2. Primary and secondary iron and steel industry	Sweden and the Netherlands	POINT
3. Pulp and paper	Sweden	POINT
4. Cement and lime production	Belgium with support from Germany	POINT
5. Primary aluminium industry	Norway	POINT
6. Primary non-ferrous metal industry	Spain	POINT
7. Large combustion plants (≥50 MWth)	France	POINT
8. Electroplating industry	Germany	POINT
9. Emulsion PVC	UK	POINT
10. Shipyards (under consideration)	The Netherlands	POINT
11. Cooling processes (horizontal issue)	France	POINT
12. Whole effluent assessment	Germany	POINT
13. Offshore industry		
Disposal of disused offshore installations		SEBA
Muds and cuttings	UK	SEBA
Drilling fluids	UK	SEBA
Presence and removal of drill cutting piles	UK	SEBA
Re-injection and inter-field injection of muds and cuttings	Norway	SEBA
Produced water management	The Netherlands	SEBA
Analysis methods for oil in produced water	Norway	SEBA
Re-injection of produced water	The Netherlands	SEBA

Flaring and well testing	The Netherlands	SEBA
14. Nuclear industry		
Guidelines for submitting information on, and assessment of, BAT in nuclear facilities		RAD
Review and assessment of the reprocessing and non-reprocessing options for spent fuel management		RAD
15. Non-nuclear industry with discharges, emissions or losses of radioactive substances		
Phosphate fertiliser industry	UK	RAD
Other non-nuclear sectors	UK	RAD
16. Agriculture		
Mineral surpluses	Belgium	NEUT
17. Aquaculture		
Fish farming	Germany	NEUT

Annex 1

Meetings held within the framework of OSPAR (June 1999 to June 2000)

Working Group	Date	Host/venue	Summary Record *
Ad Hoc Working Group on the Development of a Dynamic Selection and Prioritisation Mechanism (DYNAMEC)	7-10 September 1999	Sweden/ Stockholm	DYNAMEC (2)99/10/1
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee (ASMO)	13-17 September 1999	Spain/ El Escorial	ASMO(2) 99/10/1
Assessment Coordination Group (ACG)	15-17 September 1999	Spain/ El Escorial	ACG(3) 99/6/1
Working Group on Nutrients and Eutrophication (NEUT)	4-8 October 1999	Secretariat/ London	NEUT 99/15/1
Working Group on Diffuse Sources (DIFF)	18-22 October 1999	Switzerland/ Bern	DIFF 99/11/1
Working Group on Impacts on the Marine Environment (IMPACT)	15-19 November 1999	France/ Brest	IMPACT 99/15/1
Committee of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen (CVC)	23 November 1999	Secretariat/ London	CVC(2) 99/7/1
Meeting of OSPAR Heads of Delegation (HOD)	24-25 November 1999	Secretariat/ London	HOD(2) 99/10/1
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee	29 November – 3 December 1999	France/ Paris	ASMO(3) 99/13/1
Working Group on Point Sources (POINT)	13-17 December 1999	EC/ Seville	POINT 99/19/1
Working Group on Inputs to the Marine Environment (INPUT)	17-21 January 2000	Portugal/ Lisbon	INPUT 00/16/1
Working Group on Radioactive Substances (RAD)	18-21 January 2000	EC/ Luxembourg	RAD 00/12/1
Ad Hoc Working Group on the Development of a Dynamic Selection and Prioritisation Mechanism (DYNAMEC)	2-4 February 2000	Norway/ Oslo	DYNAMEC 00/12/1
Working Group on Sea-based Activities (SEBA)	14-18 February 2000	Netherlands/ Amsterdam	SEBA 00/16/1
Working Group on Concentrations, Trends and Effects of Substances in the Marine Environment (SIME)	21-25 February 2000	Sweden/ Stockholm	SIME 00/13/1
Meeting of Jurist/Linguists (JL)	21 March 2000	Secretariat/ London	JL 00/6/1
Environmental Assessment and Monitoring Committee (ASMO)	27-31 March 2000	Germany/ Hamburg	ASMO 00/18/1
Programmes and Measures Committee (PRAM)	10-14 April 2000	France/ Calais	PRAM 00/12/1
Coordination Committee (CC)	15 May 2000	UK/ London	CC 00/11/1
Meeting of Heads of Delegation (HOD)	16-17 May 2000	Secretariat/ London	HOD(1) 00/17/1
OSPAR Commission (OSPAR)	26-30 June 2000	Denmark/ Copenhagen	OSPAR 00/20/1

* All Summary Records are available on the OSPAR Website.

Annex 2

New OSPAR reports

General

- Activities of the OSPAR Commission, June 1999-June 2000. Implementation of the OSPAR Action Plan 1998-2003 (Update 1999). London 2000. ISBN 0 946956 58 8
- Activités de la Commission OSPAR de juin 1999 au juin 2000. Mise en oeuvre du plan d'action d'OSPAR 1998-2003 (mise à jour effectuée en 1999). Londres 2000. ISBN 0 946956 59 6

Programmes and Measures

- Assessment of Implementation Reports concerning PARCOM Decisions 92/1 and 96/3 and PARCOM Recommendations 92/4, 92/7, 93/4, 94/4. Available on the OSPAR website
- Evaluation des rapports de mise en œuvre relatifs aux décisions PARCOM 92/1 et 96/3 et aux recommandations PARCOM 92/4, 92/7, 93/4, 94/4. Available on the OSPAR website
- Assessment of Implementation Reports concerning PARCOM Decisions 95/2, 95/3 and 96/2 and PARCOM Recommendations 88/2, 87/1 and 88/1, 89/4 and 96/4. Will be made available on the OSPAR website
- Evaluation des rapports de mise en œuvre relatifs aux décisions PARCOM 95/2, 95/3 et 96/2 et aux recommandations PARCOM 88/2, 87/1 et 88/1, 89/4 et 96/4. Will be made available on the OSPAR website

Point and Diffuse Sources

- Background document on mercury and organic mercury compounds. London 2000. Available on the OSPAR website. ISBN 0 946956 54 5
- Background document on musk xylene. London 2000. Available on the OSPAR website. ISBN 0 946956 55 3
- Background document on organic tin compounds. London 2000. Available on the OSPAR website. ISBN 0 946956 56 1
- Report on Liquid Discharges from Nuclear Installations, 1998

  Report on Mercury Losses from the Chlor-Alkali Industry (1982-1998). London 2000. ISBN 0 946955 97 2
- Background document on the ecotoxicological evaluation of waste water within whole effluent assessment. London 2000. ISBN 0 946955 98 0
- Report on Nutrient Discharges from Fish Farming in the OSPAR Convention Area. London 2000. ISBN 0 946955 99 9

Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practice (BEP)

- Background Document for the Use of Pesticides on Amenity Areas. London 2000. Available on the OSPAR website. ISBN 0 946956 57 X

Assessment and Monitoring

- Quality Status Report, 2000 and regional Quality Status Reports for the Arctic Waters, the Greater North Sea, the Celtic Seas, The Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast and the Wider Atlantic
  In press
- Bilan de santé, An 2000
  In press
- Pilot Study on Atmospheric Inputs of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons.
  In press
- Data Report on the Comprehensive Study on Riverine Inputs and Direct Discharges in 1997 and 1998. London 2000. Available to the public on request
- Overview of the results of Comprehensive Study on Riverine Inputs and Direct Discharges in 1997 and 1998.
  In press
- Report on a Temporal Trend Assessment of Contaminant Concentrations in Biota
  In press

Annex 3

Measures adopted by OSPAR 2000

Decisions and Recommendations

OSPAR Decision 2000/1 on Substantial Reductions and Elimination of Discharges, Emissions and Losses of Radioactive Substances, with Special Emphasis on Nuclear Reprocessing;

France and the UK abstained from voting

OSPAR Decision 2000/2 on a Harmonised Mandatory Control System for the Use and Reduction of the Discharge of Offshore Chemicals;

OSPAR Decision 2000/3 On the Use of Organic-Phase Drilling Fluids (OPF) and the Discharge of OPF-Contaminated Cuttings;

OSPAR Recommendation 2000/1 on Best Environmental Practice (BEP) for the Reduction of Inputs of Agricultural Pesticides to the Environment through the Use of Integrated Crop Management Techniques;

OSPAR Recommendation 2000/2 on Best Environmental Practice (BEP) for the Use of Pesticides on Amenity Areas;

OSPAR Recommendation 2000/3 on Emission and Discharge Limit Values for the Manufacture of Emulsion PVC (e-PVC) from Vinyl Chloride Monomer.

OSPAR Recommendation 2000/4 on a Harmonised Pre-screening Scheme for Offshore Chemicals;

OSPAR Recommendation 2000/5 on a Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format (HOCNF);

Other agreements adopted by ASMO, PRAM or OSPAR in the 1999/2000 intersessional period

- OSPAR Coordinated Environmental Monitoring Programme (CEMP) (OSPAR Agreement 2000-1);
- JAMP Guidance note on methods and criteria for harmonised sampling and analysis of PAHs in air and precipitation (OSPAR Agreement 2000-2);
- Criteria for the selection of species and habitats (OSPAR Agreement 2000-3);
- Reporting Formats on Mercury Losses from the Chlor-Alkali Industry (OSPAR Agreement 2000-4);
- OSPAR Guidelines for Completing the HOCNF (OSPAR Agreement 2000-5);
- OSPAR Guidelines for Toxicity Testing of Substances and Preparations Used and Discharged Offshore (OSPAR Agreement 2000-6);
- OSPAR List of Substances Liable to Cause Taint (OSPAR Agreement 2000-7);
- Standard Implementation Reporting and Assessment Procedure (OSPAR Agreement 2000-8);
- Timetable of Activities for the Review of OSPAR BAT/BEP Measures (OSPAR Agreement 2000-9);
- OSPAR List of Chemicals for Priority Action (update 2000) (OSPAR Agreement 2000-10);

- Programme for the More Detailed Implementation of the OSPAR Strategy with regard to Radioactive Substances (OSPAR Agreement 2000-11);
- OSPAR Guidelines for Harmonised Quantification and Reporting Procedures for Nutrients (HARP-NUT) (OSPAR Agreement 2000-12);
- Terms of Reference of OSPAR Committees (OSPAR Agreement 2000-13);
- Staff Regulations of the Secretariat of the OSPAR Commission (OSPAR Agreement 2000-14);
- Rules of Procedure of the OSPAR Commission (OSPAR Agreement 2000-15);
- Procedure for Publication of OSPAR Reports (OSPAR Agreement 2000-16);
- Procedure for Committees to decide on issues of a technical or scientific nature and to adopt "other agreements" that have no budgetary consequences for OSPAR (OSPAR Agreement 2000-17);
- Working Procedures for Workshops (OSPAR Agreement 2000-18).

All measures and other agreements adopted by OSPAR are available on the OSPAR website.