



# OSPAR Recommendation 2020/03 amending OSPAR Recommendation 2012/5 for a risk-based approach to the Management of Produced Water Discharges from Offshore Installations

Source: OSPAR 20/12/1, Annex 14

RECALLING Article 5 of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (“OSPAR Convention”), which requires the Contracting Parties to take all possible steps to prevent and eliminate pollution from offshore sources in accordance with the provisions of the OSPAR Convention, in particular as provided for in Annex III;

RECALLING Article 4 of Annex III to the OSPAR Convention that establishes that the use on, or the discharge or emission from, offshore sources of substances which may reach and affect the maritime area shall be strictly subject to authorisation or regulation by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties and that competent authorities shall provide for a system of monitoring and inspection;

RECALLING OSPAR Recommendation 2012/5 for a risk-based approach to the Management of Produced Water Discharges from Offshore Installations;

WISHING to up-date OSPAR Recommendation 2012/5 for a risk-based approach to the Management of Produced Water Discharges from Offshore Installations;

The Contracting Parties to the 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 Recommendation 2012/5 for a risk-based approach to the Management of Produced Water Discharges from Offshore Installations.

## **2. Provisions**

The order of Preambular paragraphs 3 and 4 is reversed, to first recall Article 2.1 of Annex III and then Article 2.2 of Annex III.

Preambular paragraph 5 recalling OSPAR Decision 2000/2, OSPAR Recommendation 2010/4 and OSPAR Recommendation 2010/3 is amended as follows:

RECALLING OSPAR Decision 2000/2 on a Harmonised Mandatory Control System for the Use and Reduction of the Discharge of Offshore Chemicals as amended by Decision 2005/1,

RECALLING OSPAR Recommendation 2017/1 on a Harmonised Pre-screening Scheme for Offshore Chemicals as amended by OSPAR Recommendation 2019/4;

RECALLING OSPAR Recommendation 2010/3 on a Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format (HOCNF) as amended by OSPAR Recommendations 2014/17 and 2019/3,

## **Section 1 (Definitions)**

2.1 In Section 1 (Definitions) of Recommendation 2012/5, the definition of “substances in the context of managing produced water discharges” is amended as follows:

“substances” in the context of managing produced water discharges means naturally occurring substances (including heavy metals, PAHs etc) and substances of offshore chemicals present in produced water;

2.2 In Section 1 (Definitions) of Recommendation 2012/5, the definition of offshore chemicals from OSPAR Decision 2000/2 is inserted:

“offshore chemicals” means all chemicals intentionally used in connection with offshore exploration and production activities in the maritime area. Offshore chemicals comprise both substances and preparations;

## **Section 2 (Purpose and Scope)**

2.3 In Section 2 (Purpose and Scope) of Recommendation 2012/5, paragraph 2.1 is replaced by the following:

The purpose of this Recommendation is to:

- guide Contracting Parties in the application of a risk-based approach to assess the environmental risk posed by produced water discharges;
- describe methods to characterise the risks and;
- guide Contracting Parties in reducing those risks which are not adequately controlled through the application of BAT and BEP.

## **Section 3 (Programmes and Measures)**

2.4 In Section 3.2 (Data Collection) of Recommendation 2012/5, paragraph 3.2.1(c) is replaced by the following:

offshore chemicals discharged with produced water: including ecotoxicological information and other information;

### **3. Entry into force**

3.1 This Recommendation has effect from 1 January 2021.