

Article 5

Authorities and Contact Points

1. Each Party's national system for responding promptly and effectively to oil pollution incidents shall include as a minimum the designation of:
 - a. the competent national authority or authorities with responsibility for oil pollution preparedness and response;
 - b. the national 24-hour operational contact point or points, which shall be responsible for the receipt and transmission of oil pollution reports; and
 - c. an authority or authorities entitled to act on behalf of the Party to request assistance or to decide to render the assistance requested.
2. The entities designated by each Party pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article are specified in Appendices to this Agreement. Each Party shall promptly inform the other Parties in writing through its competent national authority or authorities and through diplomatic channels of any changes to those designations. The Appendices to this Agreement shall be modified accordingly.

Article 6

Notification

1. Whenever a Party receives information on oil pollution, or possible oil pollution, it shall:
 - a. assess the event to determine whether it is an oil pollution incident;
 - b. assess the nature, extent and possible consequences of the oil pollution incident, including taking appropriate steps within available resources to identify possible sources; and
 - c. then, without delay, inform all States whose interests are affected or likely to be affected by such oil pollution incident, together with
 - (i) details of its assessments and any action it has taken, or intends to take, to deal with the incident, including mitigation measures, and
 - (ii) further information as appropriate,until the action taken to respond to the incident has been concluded or until joint action has been decided by such States.