

BENIN

SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT

Port Autonome de Cotonou Boite Postale 927 Cotonou Benin	Tel: +229-312890 +229-314387 Tlx: 5004 DIRPORT
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COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY

Ministry of Transport National Oil Spill Response Centre of the Department of the Merchant Navy 01 BP 1234 Cotonou	Tel: +229-21 31 58 45 +229-21 31 46 69 Fax: +229 21 31 54 +229 21 31 61 11 E-Mail: marimarc@intnet.bj
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RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

Responsibility for dealing with oil spills lies with the Ministry of Transport, Department of Merchant Marine (Ministere des Transports, Direction de la Marine Marchande). The Ministry may devolve this to the local coastal administrations.

RESPONSE POLICY

According to information received from GI WACAF (January 2008), a national oil spill contingency plan has been developed by the National Oil Spill Response Centre and the National Oil Spill Response Committee (CNLPMA) and officially approved, but we are unaware of further details. It is likely that dispersant use would be restricted in fishing areas and within the coastal lagoons where water turnover is limited. Manual cleaning of shorelines is likely to be the most effective response in Benin. No specialist facilities exist for dealing with oily wastes, and landfill is the most viable option.

EQUIPMENT

Government

There is no dedicated oil spill response equipment available in Benin. The military would provide aircraft for surveillance and monitoring duties.

Private

A variety of earth moving and agricultural equipment suitable for beach cleaning, and labour, are available commercially.

PREVIOUS SPILL EXPERIENCE

There do not appear to have been any major spills in Benin.

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CONVENTIONS

Prevention & Safety					Spill Response		Compensation						
MARPOL 73/78		Annexes III IV V VI			OPRC '90	OPRC -HNS	CLC '69 '76 '92			Fund '92	Supp Fund	HNS*	Bunker
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			

* not yet in force

REGIONAL AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Abidjan Convention (with states of the West and Central African Region).

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