

## GHANA

### SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT

Operations Room	Tel:	+233 302 777991
Navy Headquarters		+233 302 766850
Burma Camp		+233 302 777621
Accra	Fax:	+233 302 761390
or Coast Radio Station MF, HF, VHF		
or Port Radio Stations (Tema, Takoradi) VHF Ch 14 & 16, MF, HF		

### COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY

Environmental Protection Agency PO Box M326 Ministries Post Office Accra	Tel:	+233 302 664697/8
	Fax:	+233 302 662690
Ghana Maritime Authority No. E354/3, Modibo Keita Close, East Ridge Ministries Post Office, PMB 34, Accra	Tel:	+233 302 663506
		+233 302 684392
	Fax:	+233 302 677702
	Web:	<a href="http://www.ghanamaritime.org">www.ghanamaritime.org</a>

### RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

Ghana has a National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) which is periodically updated. The lead agency for dealing with oil spills is the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) of the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, which works in conjunction with the Ghana Maritime Authority (GMA) (under the direction of the Ministry of Transport). The Chief of the Ghana Navy would provide the on-scene commander to coordinate military involvement in spill reconnaissance and clean-up at sea. The Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority is the designated agency for Tier 1/2 spills in harbour areas.

The Maritime Pollution Act was passed into law in 2016 and provides for the prevention, regulation and control of pollution within Ghana's territorial waters and incorporates most of the marine pollution conventions ratified by Ghana.

Oil companies operating in Ghana have their own spill response plans which are integrated with the national plan.

In the event of a major oil spill, it is likely that assistance would be sought from overseas in accordance with the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation (OPRC 1990). The Customs, Excise & Preventive Service and Immigration Department would expedite the temporary import of equipment and experienced personnel should the need arise on a request from EPA. If additional overseas resources were required, EPA in conjunction with the oil industry would arrange for assistance from Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) in Southampton, UK.

EPA, in accordance with relevant Memoranda of Understanding and relevant international conventions (such as Abidjan Convention), may also assist or receive assistance from neighbouring countries in relation to oil spill incidents.

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## RESPONSE POLICY

The National Plan gives containment and recovery as the preferred policy options for oil spill response. Dispersant use, however, is listed as being both feasible and desirable in some cases. EPA is responsible for its authorisation. Any clean-up would involve manual shoreline cleaning due to the predominantly onshore winds for much of the year.

Disposal options include landfill, burning, recycling recovered oil at a refinery or reusing in industry.

## EQUIPMENT

### Government

It is understood that there is very little dedicated oil spill response equipment available in Ghana. The Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority have two tugs at Tema and one tug at Takoradi fitted with booms, skimmers and tank receptacles. Also, some vacuum trucks are available. Military sources under the control of the on-scene commander would provide aircraft for surveillance and monitoring duties.

### Private

Spill equipment is held by oil companies operating in the country. In addition, both mechanical and agricultural equipment suitable for beach cleaning, and labour, are available commercially. Tank trucks and pumps are also available commercially. Locally readily available waste materials (coconut husk and poultry feathers) are suitable as cheap sorbents.

## PREVIOUS SPILL EXPERIENCE

There does not appear to have been any major spills in Ghana waters. Small spills have been reported at the Tema oil refinery and at the ports of Tema and Takoradi.

## 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



# GHANA

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## REGIONAL AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

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

Date of issue: August 2018

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