

26/06/2019

PRESS RELEASE

The technical and legal dimension of the safety in offshore installations at HHRM International Seminar

Hellenic Hydrocarbon Resources Management (HHRM) organized successfully its first workshop, with the participation of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), on 25 June 2019, on "Emergency Response in Offshore Platforms".

The workshop started with the opening speech of HHRM President and CEO, Mr. Yannis Bassias, who presented the role of HHRM in the preparation of the national contingency plan for offshore hydrocarbon installations. Next, Mr Jörg Köhli, representative of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy and Director of the Monitoring Unit of the European Directive 2013/30 / EU on the safety of offshore oil exploration and exploitation, presented the European Union policy on this issue.

The seminar was developed in four thematic units: I. Emergency Response Challenges & Strategies, II. Well containment and control, III. Emergency Response Plans and IV. Oil Spill Management. The seminar covered in particular issues such as toxic cloud mitigation, fire-fighting on platform, platform stability issues and well containment and control following an incident.

International companies with extensive experience, such as the Italian Saipem and Fores Engineering, English Lloyd's, HATCH and LOC, Norwegian DNV GL, American ABS, Wild Well Control and Oil Spill Response Ltd., Greek NGP Training Center and Hellenic Ship Owners Association of Tugs, Salvage, Antipollution and OSVs, presented methods and mechanisms to deal with emergencies in offshore exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons.

Representatives of competent authorities from United Kingdom, Italy, Romania, Croatia and the Netherlands presented the structure of the national emergency plans implemented in their jurisdiction.

The Managing Director of the English Competent Authority for offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation facilities, the UK Government Deputy to the UK SOSREP, and the Commander of the Italian Coast Guard, responsible for the addressing of emergency needs in offshore hydrocarbon installations, who presented the Italian national contingency plan, also attended the workshop.

Representatives of the Hellenic Coast Guard, the General Secretariat for Civil Protection, the General Staff of the National Defense, the Fire Service and other public bodies such as Environmental Inspectors, as well as representatives of Greek companies related to hydrocarbon operations attended the workshop, addressing key questions to the speakers, highlighting the greatest challenges of responding to these emergency needs.



This workshop was held on the day after the event co-organized by HHRM with the Italian authorities, on safety issues in subsea pipelines.

These activities mark the work of the competent authorities' group, set up by HHRM, in order to develop the National External Emergency Response Plan for Offshore Hydrocarbon Exploration and Exploitation Installations