NORWEGIAN STATE SECRETARY VISITS EMSA



The delegation's visit to the MSS operations centre

On 13 May, EMSA was pleased to welcome the Norwegian State Secretary for European Affairs, Ingvild Stub, accompanied by HE the Norwegian Ambassador, Ove Thorsheim, and a small group of officials. During her visit, Ms Stub was given an introduction to the work of EMSA and paid a short visit to the Maritime Surveillance Services operations centre.

EMSA TEAMS UP WITH FRONTEX AT EUROPEAN DAY FOR BORDER GUARDS



On 22 May, EMSA participated in the European Day for Border Guards (ED4BD) in Warsaw, an event organised by Frontex. ED4BG presents Europe's border-guard community with an opportunity to share experience and best practice. It offers a forum for topical discussion and exchange of views between key border management players. EMSA and the Frontex Situation Centre had a combined stand, showcasing the recent achievements of integrated systems. This integration has enabled Frontex to provide a coherent and up-to-date maritime situational picture. This is an important part of a broader European situational picture provided by Frontex fusion services. During the event, visitors enjoyed an interactive demonstration of Frontex fusion services and received detailed information about the services offered by both agencies. Frontex and EMSA have established a cooperation framework for the maritime domain. Under this framework, EMSA shares information with Frontex, such as vessel traffic information and satellite-based detection of objects at sea. Frontex in turn shares this information with National Coordination Centres via the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR).

OPERATIONAL USERS OF EMSA'S INTEGRATED MARITIME SERVICES ATTEND FIRST WORKSHOP



EMSA hosted the first operational user workshop for integrated maritime services on 7 May. The workshop brought together users from the 15 member states currently testing the pilot service. Chaired by EMSA, the meeting provided the opportunity to share experience, review the current version of the service, and discuss new requirements for upcoming releases. Through a series of presentations, representatives from Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and UK gave operational feedback of the services delivered so far. The availability of a global satellite AIS feed, and the ability to process and integrate different data sources - including the adherence to complex access rights - were much appreciated. Over one year, the number of volunteering countries increased from six to 15 and the number of users grew from some 25 to more than 150. The number of bodies using the services within the member states has also risen dramatically, and the service is now used for supporting activities within the following domains: search and rescue, flag fleet monitoring, environmental monitoring, traffic monitoring, law enforcement and accident investigation.

29TH EQUASIS SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The 29th Equasis Supervisory Committee took place on 16 May, at the UK Department of Transport. Markku Mylly, EMSA's Executive Director, chaired the committee for the first time. The supervisory committee is chaired alternately by EMSA (hosting the Management Unit of Equasis) and the French Maritime Administration (hosting the Technical Unit of Equasis). The meeting was very fruitful and included among others the endorsement of new data providers to the Equasis system and the announcement of new agreements (to be signed shortly, in June and July) with two PSC Regimes namely the Mediterranean MoU and the Riyadh MoU. With these two additions seven PSC regimes will be providing data free of charge to Equasis.

ON THE WEBSITE

Procurement: Provision of travel agency services for EMSA in the scope of the TRACECA II project (deadline: 23/06/2014); Supply of oil dispersants (deadline: 11/07/2014)

Careers: Traineeship Scheme; National Experts in Professional Training (deadline: 2/07/2014)