EMSA ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEET IN ITALY DURING GENOA SHIPPING WEEK

On 26-27 June, the EMSA Administrative Board met in Genoa as part of the Genoa Shipping Week. Board members had the opportunity to discuss thoroughly a first draft of the upcoming EMSA-5 year strategy which is expected to be finalised and submitted in November. The Agency presented a new concept for learning and development based on functions and taking a modular approach.

VISIT TO ICELANDIC COAST GUARD TO SEE RPAS OPERATIONS FIRST HAND

Early in June, EMSA’s Executive Director travelled north of Reykjavik to Egilsstaðir to meet the Icelandic Coast Guard and Icelandic Transport Authority (ICCTRA) operating a long-endurance RPAS to enhance its maritime picture. The Hermes 900 RPAS, under contract by EMSA from CEIA, has been integrated into its existing surveillance mechanism to cover maritime safety and security, search and rescue, environmental protection, law enforcement and fisheries control. The capability of the aircraft has already been demonstrated, particularly in terms of flight hours compared with manned aircraft (more than 800 h. flying time and 45 days). Successful missions include the catching of illegal fishing of fish and the subsequent charging of the captain, and the successful following of a missing vessel which had been lost at sea. The uptake of the RPAS has also been viewed very positively by the people of Iceland.

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COOPERATION FRAMEWORK MEETS IN LISBON

On 12-13 June, EMSA hosted the 39th meeting of the Permanent Cooperation Framework between PCF in Lisbon to exchange views and experiences. The meeting, attended by 26 countries discussed aspects related to cooperation between Accident Investigation bodies, including investigation and control-related initiatives conducted the previous year. The activities carried out by the dedicated working groups were presented and the PCF established the tasks and priorities to be tackled. Delegates considered the investigation of human and organisational factors as a crucial challenge in priorities to be tackled. Delegates considered the investigation of human and organisational factors as a crucial challenge in.

CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG MEDITERRANEAN COAST GUARD EXPERTS

On 11-13 June, EMSA participated in the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum held in Casablanca under its Moroccan-French chairmanship. This voluntary forum brings together representatives from a variety of institutions and agencies carrying out coast guard functions. The common challenges of maritime safety, illegal immigration, fisheries control, maritime security and surveillance, environmental protection and illegal trade were addressed from the perspective of multilateral cooperation. Representatives from the Mediterranean countries (Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Turkey) and organisations (European Commission, ITFSA, EMSA, Frontex, INTERPOL) agreed on the need to adopt a common approach in enforcing international conventions and instruments. EMSA supports the MedCoGCPP as part of its SAFEMED activities and both ClearSeafar and the standby of spill response vessels are highly valued services.

EMSA NEWSLETTER No. 172
JULY 2019

CO2 SHIP EMISSIONS DATA JUST PUBLISHED ON THETIS-MRV

THETIS-MRV System has just released information on one year of CO2 emissions from ships over 5,000 GT operating in the European Economic Area. This information covers around 1,000 ships of different types, services and cargo, including ro-ro to passenger ships, bulk carriers, tankers and container ships. The reported figures for 2018 stand at 130m tonnes of CO2 emissions. EMSA has been assisting the European Commission’s DG CLIMA to promote the reduction of CO2 emissions from maritime transport in a cost-effective way through the THETIS-MRV system. This purpose-built system enables companies to work together with accredited verifiers to prepare monitoring plans and, importantly, to release emission reports and documents of compliance to the European Commission and relevant flag state authorities. The European Commission has said that it will now carefully analyse the data and publish a report towards the end of 2019.

CLEANSEANET DETECTS OIL SPILL IN FINNISH WATERS

An oil spill spotted 185 kilometres in length was detected by EMSA’s CleanSeaNet service in a Sentinel-1 image, last Thursday 20 June in Finnish waters. A ClearSeafar oil spill alert prompted Finnish authorities to investigate the detection, and an oil spill recovery operation was initiated over the next two days. Three Finnish Border Guard vessels and a naval oil spill response vessel were deployed to recover the oil. As the spilled fuel oil had a viscosity problem, the rapid spill recovery operation was called on 21 June as the remaining oil was breaking up and evaporating. Investigations regarding the source of the spill are ongoing.

CAN YOU HELP SUSTAIN OUR PLANET? – BBC CLICK INVESTIGATES

The latest episode of the BBC Click technology programme featured EMSA’s RPAS service and how it’s being used to monitor ship emissions by the Danish Maritime Authority. The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) operations are benchmarked against the EU’s Sulphur Directive and thereby cut at all pollution. The operations caught the imagination of the BBC as the cutting edge technology is an enforcement instrument. On 11 July, on board the U.S.NSVI Skaidri a unique ship system capable of detecting pollutants and generating emissions reports is launched under the Danish Maritime Authority. We can extend our reach by a huge margin. By flying these drones over the ships, collecting samples of the emissions and calculating how much sulphur is there, we can then follow up with actual inspections when the ship comes into port,” explained Peter Krog-Meyer from the Danish Maritime Autority. Click here to watch the episode.

CLOSING REMARKS

EMSA.europa.eu


PROCUREMENT: Supply of services to recover oil in icy waters (8/7/2019); Marine & supply of safety equipment (9/7/2019); HQC: audit services (7/6/2019); Contract for Sale of goods (6/7/2019). Contract for Salt transport activities (6/7/2019). See website for more.