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EMSA MEETS WITH PARTNER AGENCY IN VIGO TO DISCUSS AREAS OF COOPERATION
On 9 July, Ms Maja Marković-Kostalj met with ECFP’s head of agency, Pascal Savouret, for an exchange on their cooperation through bilateral agreements and particularly in the context of European coast guard-related activities. Pollution response is one area in which cooperation has recently been extended to allow for the possibility of EFCA chartered vessels to be equipped with pollution response equipment from EMSA’s response assets deployed under the head of the Portuguese national maritime authority. This included a fully equipped oil pollution response vessel, together with an RPAS quadcopter and satellite images to detect a simulated oil spill. The presidential visit ended with an opportunity for all staff to meet their host country colleagues.

RAISING MARITIME SECURITY LEVELS IN THE BLACK AND CASPIAN SEA REGION
The first training course under the maritime security component of the EU-funded Black and Caspian Sea region project took place on 16-17 July at EMSA. Sixteen participants from BCCSA project beneficiary countries (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Ukraine) completed the 48-hour course covering SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code. These instruments form the basis of the role of the Flag State and its responsibilities as regards the implementation of international maritime security framework. The course also covered the relevant EU legislation and high-level panel which may be an obstacle to the progress, such as the application of the non-mandatory part of the ISPS Code. The participants took part in discussions on practical cases presented and asked to simulate scenarios, which may be encountered by national authorities when enforcing maritime security measures.

FRANCE’S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS VISITS EMSA
On 11 July, EMSA had the pleasure of welcoming to the agency Ms Amélie de Montchalin, France’s Secretary of State for European Affairs who was appointed in March of this year. The visit was an opportunity to introduce Ms Montchalin to EMSA’s main activities in the key areas of safety, security and prevention and response to pollution. Of the visit, Ms Montchalin said: “I end my day in Lisbon with a concrete success story for Europe. EMSA is working daily to protect our seas and oceans from pollution and to ensure the security of our seas and oceans. Of the visit, Ms Montchalin said: ‘I end my day in Lisbon with a concrete success story for Europe. EMSA is working daily to protect our seas and oceans from pollution and to ensure the security of our seas and oceans.’”

CO₂ EMISSIONS DATA PUBLISHED FOR FIRST REPORTING PERIOD
EMSA’s THETIS-MRV system has released information on one year of CO₂ emissions from some 11 400 ships over ‘AY DOF’ operating in the European Economic Area. The TMS-MRV facilitates the structured workflow process involved in the reporting of the emissions, from the drafting of the monitoring plan to the final issuing of the document of compliance, thereby simplifying the administrative burden for all concerned. The system is designed to help shipowners and operators fulfil their legal obligations, and the data they submit thus be approved or verified. This is how the data can be used by the companies and approved by their respective accredited verifiers. The emissions data are now to be carefully analysed by the European Commission and a report made public at the end of the year allowing for an assessment of the CO₂ emissions reduction performances of the EU.

EMSA FLIGHTS IN CROATIA ENHANCING MARITIME SURVEILLANCE IN REAL TIME
EMSA’s service of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) is enhancing the Croatian authorities’ role in implementing CISE, the Common Information Sharing Environment. The RPAS flights in Croatia are expected to carry out regular patrol flights, on-demand incident monitoring missions and specific inspection operations. The RPAS is a Camcopter S-100 model under contract to EMSA from Schiebel Aircraft GmbH and has several specialised features which make it particularly useful to the Croatian authorities.

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Raising Maritime Security Levels in the Black and Caspian Sea Region