

## **EMSA and Frontex extend cooperation for another three years**

**EMSA and the EU's border agency Frontex have signed a new interagency agreement that will extend their cooperation for another three years. The two agencies will continue to work together in the areas of border surveillance, interception of vessels suspected of engaging in criminal activities and cross border crime and support for search and rescue at sea.**



EMSA Executive Director Markku Mylly and Frontex Executive Director Fabrice Leggeri took part in the official signing ceremony on 25 May at the Frontex headquarters in Warsaw.

The previous Service Level Agreement between Frontex and EMSA was in force for three years before it expired in April.

“Under the new Frontex-EMSA agreement, EMSA will continue to provide valuable services to Frontex when supporting the Member States to perform border surveillance, interception of vessels suspected of engaging in criminal activities and cross border crime and search and rescue at sea,” explained Markku Mylly.

EMSA assists Frontex in providing several Eurosur Fusion Services (EFS), including tracking of vessels suspected to be engaged in criminal activities and people smuggling and monitoring of suspicious activities.

By combining skills, experience and resources, EMSA and Frontex can build on synergies to improve the quality of services developed. Cooperation also brings cost savings by avoiding duplication of effort and overlapping infrastructures, and in terms of economies of scale. The signing of the service level agreement brings existing cooperation between EMSA and Frontex to the next level, for the benefit of Member States.