

Workshop Report

7th SafeSeaNet /LRIT Group Meeting EMSWe Databases

Held in via Video Conference

12 May and 24 June 2020

Date: 2 July 2020

Background

At its 6th meeting (20 January 2020), the HLSG for Governance of the Digital Maritime System and Services gave the mandate to the SSN group to elaborate the technical specifications, standards and processes for the common databases required by the European Maritime Single Window Environment Databases (EMSWe) Regulation (EU) 2019/1239 under its articles 14 (EMSWe Ship Database), 15 (Common Location Database) and 16 (Common Hazmat Database).

To address the above objectives, two dedicated sessions of the 7th SSN Group meeting were scheduled on 12 May and 24 June.

The sessions of 12 May and 24 June were chaired by Mr Lazaros Aichmalotidis, Head of Unit Simplification and were held via Video Conference (VC) due to the public health situation. Mr Jacob Terling and Mr Alexander Hoffmann from DG MOVE Unit D2, Mr Roberto Alongi and Mr Bjorn Cassar Simmonds from DG MOVE Unit D1 represented the **European Commission**.

Delegations from **Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain** and **Sweden** attended the meetings. A representative from **PROTECT** attended as observer.

The workshop documentation is available at: <http://www.emsa.europa.eu/ssn-main/documents/workshop-presentations-a-reports.html>

The agendas of the meeting sessions are attached in Annex 1. The list of actions is provided in Annex 2.

Workshop Programme

1. Introduction

The objective of the first meeting session was to review the draft technical specifications, standards and procedures documents for the EMSWe Ship Database (ESD), the EMSWe Common Location Database (CLD) and the EMSWe Common HAZMAT Database (CHD) that had been prepared by EMSA before the meeting.

The first session focussed on the following sections of the documents:

1. Introduction,
2. Objectives of the document,
3. Database overview,
4. Management for the database,
5. Interface with Maritime National Single Windows (MNSW),
6. Operational services and procedures.

The objective of the second session was to review the revised documentation which had been prepared by EMSA to reflect the comments received during the first session and by correspondence. In addition, the second session focussed on the remaining sections of the documents:

7. Commissioning measures for establishing connection with MNSWs,
8. System performance, and
9. System security.

2. General considerations

EMSA presented the draft technical specifications, standards and procedures of each database. The documents included proposals to be discussed by the SSN group.

EMSA indicated that the documents address the mandate given to the SSN Group and aim at serving as basis for the elaboration of the Regulation's Implementing Acts by the Commission. The same approach as for the SSN IFCD had been followed for preparing the draft documents and aimed at reusing to the extent possible the existing developments. EMSA explained that more detailed and technical documentation would be drafted at a second stage, e.g. System Interface Guides, Commissioning Test Plans.

A provisional dataset specification was provided for each database (as annex to the documents). EMSA explained that the dataset specifications would be revised if necessary when the EMSWe dataset is defined by the EMSWe Data Thematic Team (**Action point 1**). EMSA advised that the common databases would not hold any personal information.

As regards the requirement for MS to host a local copy of the databases, EMSA clarified that this aims at ensuring that the MNSW do not technically depend on the common databases and avoid that the databases represent a single point of failure of the EMSWe.

Several participants asked whether the Commission or EMSA would develop common software modules (e.g. RIM) that could be used by the MNSWs to interface with the common databases and handle the required local copy. EMSA replied that, although the idea is interesting, such development was not foreseen in the mandate given to the SSN Group and that the question should be raised to the Commission at the EMSWe subgroup.

Some participants asked whether access to the databases could be given to the Declarants. EMSA clarified that according to the Regulation, the information will be made available to the MNSW which in turn should make it available to Declarants to facilitate reporting.

The documents will be clarified to indicate that the commissioning measures of the three databases may be combined (**Action point 2**).

As regards the operational coordination of the databases, the participants asked to have an indication of the tasks required for the national helpdesk contact points. A note should be added that the requirements regarding the national helpdesk contact point would be defined in coordination with other EMSWe Teams (**Action point 3**).

3. EMSWe Common Location Database (CLD)

As regards the CLD, participants advised that the data elements of the EMSWe dataset which may refer to LOCODEs having different functions than port or offshore installations shall be specified in the business rules of the EMSWe dataset.

France asked if the overseas territories will be available for the management by SSN NCA. EMSA responded that the CLD is going to use as a source of information the UN/LOCODE list and the IMO GISIS list. The procedure on how to update these lists is defined by UNECE and IMO respectively. Regarding the SSN specific codes, the SSN NCA can only create/updated LOCODE of its own country and there is no link to the overseas territories.

Participants were of the opinion that having a request/response mechanism was not needed considering the data for local copies will be pushed by the CLD. This mechanism was removed from the document at the second session.

The Netherlands made a presentation on secondary/dependent locations within the port of Rotterdam. It was highlighted that these secondary/dependent locations (e.g. Maassluis) have a valid UN/LOCODE and are being used by other Member States while the Netherlands reports all ship calls under the Rotterdam LOCODE (NLRMTM). The Netherlands expressed their concern that this issue may create difficulties in reuse of data between the ports and asked EMSA to investigate if secondary/dependent locations can be added in the EMSWe CLD.

EMSA responded that the concept of secondary/dependent locations has been already tested in SSN system and is described in the SSN LOCODEs guidelines. It has been highlighted that adding of secondary/dependent locations in the CLD will not solve the problem of access rights since the CLD is not a system to control them. Currently the access rights in SafeSeaNet are configured in the Central Organisation Database (COD) and this database already offers the possibility to configure more than one LOCODE under an Organisation. EMSA also explained that the definition of access rights and business rules will have to be discussed under the EMSWe subgroup for the whole system.

Estonia and **Finland** informed the group that the UNECE is preparing the amendment to the Recommendation No. 16 - UN/LOCODE - CODE FOR PORTS AND OTHER LOCATIONS and it is planned to include child codes for the UN/LOCODEs.

EMSA will verify with the UNECE Secretariat what is the status of this recommendation and what are the changes planned (**Action point 4**). Since UN/LOCODE is the main sources of information, the CLD dataset will be updated accordingly to include all information published by UNECE.

4. EMSWe Ship Database (ESD)

As regards the ESD dataset, participants advised that the ESD should only hold ship identification information and ship particulars, as required by the Regulation and that other information (e.g. CSO details, information on ISSC and security plan, security level) should be removed. EMSA revised accordingly the provisional ESD dataset at the second session. EMSA informed the group that information on maximum waste capacity per waste type had been added on the advice of the Waste Working Group.

Several participants asked to revise the ESD concept to complement the ESD data with information from other sources than Declarants in order to improve data completeness and quality. EMSA clarified that according to the Regulation, information can only be provided by Declarants and that the issue should be raised at the EMSWe sub-group.

Participants were of the opinion that having a request/response mechanism was not needed considering the data for local copies will be pushed by the ESD. This mechanism was removed from the document at the second session.

On the suggestion of **Germany**, the data update principle (matching of ship from notification with ship in database) was improved at the second session by applying to logics depending on whether the ship has an IMO number or has no IMO number.

As regards the download feature, the document will clarify the file format (same as CLD) (**Action point 5**).

The Netherlands asked to consider the deactivation of ships and archiving of data. EMSA will investigate the archiving measures in place in EMSA to see whether such measures can be applied to ESD (**Action point 6**).

5. EMSWe Common Hazmat Database (CHD)

Participants expressed their interest in sharing the CHD contents with local authorities and Industry. EMSA clarified that this is possible, and it is up to each Member State to decide how to implement this access, through the local copy.

In this respect EMSA also highlighted that CHD data is protected under an IMO copyright agreement that should be known by all actors accessing CHD content.

Participants also raised some questions regarding the future validation of the declared dangerous and polluting goods inserted by Declarants, which should be of the best quality and requested EMSA to gather the best practices currently in use by local authorities (**Action point 7**).

6. Meeting conclusions and follow-up actions

The follow-up actions are listed in Annex 2.

The SSN Group successfully reviewed and finalised the technical specifications, standards and procedures documents for the ESD, CLD and CHD. Participants were invited to send their additional comments by email until 10 July (**Action point 8**). EMSA will assess the comments received, prepare the final version of the documents (**Action point 9**).

EMSA will present the progress of the group as regards the EMSWe databases to the EMSWe sub-group (29-30 June) and to the HLSG (2-3 July).

The final technical specifications, standards and procedures documents for the ESD, CLD and CHD will be presented to the SSN Group 8 in October for validation, then to the EMSWe sub-group in September/October (data to be defined by the Commission) and to the HLSG in December.

Annex 1 – Meeting sessions agenda

Day 1 - 12 May 2020

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
EMSWe Databases		
09:00 – 09:30	Opening / Introduction	
09:30 – 11:00	Discussion on EMSWe Common Location Database: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview and dataset ○ Roles and responsibilities ○ Interfaces with MNSW ○ Procedures ○ Commissioning measures ○ Non-functional requirements 	MS/EMSA
13:00 – 14:15	Discussion on EMSWe Ship Database: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview and dataset ○ Roles and responsibilities ○ Interfaces with MNSW ○ Procedures ○ Commissioning measures ○ Non-functional requirements 	MS/EMSA
14:15 – 15:00	Discussion on EMSWe Common Hazmat Database: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview and dataset ○ Roles and responsibilities ○ Interfaces with MNSW ○ Procedures ○ Commissioning measures ○ Non-functional requirements 	MS/EMSA
15:00 – 15:15	Summary and follow up actions	EMSA

Day 2 - 24 June 2020

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers
EMSWe Databases		
09:00 – 09:30	Opening / Introduction	EMSA
09:30 – 11:00	Discussion on comments received and revised EMSW database documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o General topics o EMSWe Common Location Database + NL presentation on dependent locations o EMSWe Ship Database o EMSWe Common Hazmat Database 	MS/EMSA
13:30 – 14:45	Review of remaining sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Commissioning measures o System performance o System security 	MS/EMSA
14:45 – 15:00	Summary and follow up actions	EMSA

Annex 2 – List of actions

Action Point	Topic and Action	Resp.
1	Revise the EMSWe Databases' datasets specifications if necessary when the EMSWe dataset is defined by the EMSWe Data Thematic Team	EMSA
2	Clarify the EMSWe Databases documents to indicate that the commissioning measures of the three databases may be combined	EMSA
3	Indicate the tasks required for the national helpdesk contact points in the EMSWe Databases documents and add a note that the requirements regarding the national helpdesk contact points will be defined in coordination with other EMSWe Teams	EMSA
4	Verify with the UNECE Secretariat what is the status of recommendation No. 16 - UN/LOCODE - CODE FOR PORTS AND OTHER LOCATIONS and what are the changes planned	EMSA
5	Clarify the file formats for the download feature of the ESD (same as EMSWe CLD).	EMSA
6	Investigate the archiving measures in place in EMSA to see whether such measures can be applied to ESD	EMSA
7	Gather the best practices currently in use by local authorities regarding the data quality checks on hazmat information	EMSA
8	Send additional comments to the EMSWe Databases technical specifications, standards and procedures documents by email until 10 July	Participants
9	Assess comments received from participants and prepare final version of the EMSWe Databases technical specifications, standards and procedures documents.	EMSA

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