

SafeSeaNet Group meeting no. 21
Agenda item III
8 May 2014

SSN 21/3/2 (v.1.00)
Lisbon, 8 April 2014

SAFESEANET OPERATIONAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS

Interface and Functionalities Control Document (IFCD) v1.1

Submitted by EMSA

<i>Summary</i>	Present the draft revised IFCD (v1.1) for SSN group validation
<i>Action to be taken</i>	As per paragraph 5
<i>Related documents</i>	a. HLSG 10.5.2 – Revision of the IFCD

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the 10th HLSG meeting (16 January) it was agreed to initiate the process for the revision of the SafeSeaNet Interface and Functionalities Control Document (IFCD). The purpose of this revision is to reflect:

- The changes that will be implemented in SafeSeaNet (SSN) due to Directive 2010/65/EU on reporting formalities for ships in EU ports;
- Previous decisions of the HLSG; and
- The outcome of pilot projects.

In accordance with Article 2 of Commission Decision of 31 July 2009, establishing the HLSG, the group is tasked to approve the IFCD and any amendments thereto. Version 1 of the IFCD was approved by the HLSG at its 8th meeting (Brussels, 13 December 2012) following the submission of a proposed draft prepared by the SSN Group. Any amendment to the IFCD should follow the same procedure.

2. SCOPE OF THE AMENDMENTS

The HLSG has also defined the scope of the amendments/adjustments to be made:

- a. Exchange of information resulting from the waste and cargo residues and security notifications (chapter 2.3). These changes derive from Directive 2010/65/EU and were already introduced in the IFCD as text to be included in a revised IFCD (text in square brackets);
- b. Inclusion of the "National Single Window", "Waste" and "Security" roles and their access rights (chapter 3.3 and 3.4). This is related to point (a) above;
- c. Management of information on exemptions (chapters 2.3 and 5.2);
- d. Inclusion of the streaming mechanism for data distribution (chapter 2.5.2). This is an option for distributing SSN data (enriched AIS);

- e. Use of reference databases in SSN system (chapter 5.2.3). The use of reference databases will be introduced following the developments of the Ship Database pilot project and the Hazmat Database project.

Consequential or editorial changes following from the above list may also be proposed.

3. METHODOLOGY AND TIME PLAN

EMSA coordinated the preparatory work by correspondence with the SSN Group. Due to the limited impact of the revision, no meetings were considered necessary. The time plan agreed by the HLSG was followed (see table 1). Two drafts were distributed and the comments by SSN Group were incorporated.

The draft revised IFCD is presented in annex. The proposed amendments are included in track changes with a footnote explaining the context.

Date	Task	Responsible
3 Feb 2014	Distribute first draft to the SSN group	EMSA
17 Feb 2014	Provide feedback on first draft	SSN Group
24 Feb 2014	Prepare a second draft based on feedback from SSN Group	EMSA
10 Mar 2014	Provide feedback on second draft	SSN Group
17 Mar 2014	Prepare draft IFCD v1.1 for validation by SSN Group	EMSA
08 May 2014	SSN Workshop 21: validate draft IFCD v1.1	SSN Group
May 2014	Send draft IFCD v1.1 to HLSG	MOVE
Jun 2014 [tbc]	HLSG 11: approve IFCD v1.1	HLSG

Table 1 – Time plan for the revision of the IFCD

4. FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS TO THE PROPOSED DRAFT

Some questions were raised regarding the inclusion of the “National Single Window” role and the associated access rights in the IFCD. The Commission, was consulted on this issue and provided the following clarification:

The purpose and spirit of Directive 2010/65/EU is to interlink both systems (SSN and NSW) and to have in the end an interoperable SSN-NSW system (not alternative point-to-point systems). This is clear from Article 5.3:

“(…) for the good functioning of the single window (…) the electronic systems referred to in paragraph 1 [SSN, Customs or other electronic systems] must be interoperable, accessible and compatible with the SafeSeaNet system established in accordance with Directive 2002/59/EC (…).”

The architecture of SSN is to cater for “*electronic messages exchanged in accordance with this Directive [VTMIS Directive] and relevant Community legislation [in this case Directive 2010/65/EU] shall be distributed through SafeSeaNet. To this end MS shall develop and maintain the necessary interfaces for automatic transmission of data by electronic means to the SafeSeaNet*” (Annex III to the VTMIS Directive).

In Directive 2010/65/EU there are three categories of exchange:

- 1) Those that shall be exchanged using SSN;
- 2) Those which shall be exchanged via SSN, if required by a Member State; and

- 3) Those that may not be shared (information required by national legislation for national purpose).

This does not, however, mean that Member States can establish direct connections between NSWs of the different Member States. This is not the intent of the legislation which requires interoperability between the NSW and SSN. It would neither contribute to the reporting once principle established in Directive 2010/65/EU and therefore the good functioning of the NSW.

The Union maritime information and exchange system, SSN, should be the sole system for the exchange of information on maritime traffic and transport. The establishment of parallel or bilateral exchange channels would lead to costly non-optimised technical developments which are incompatible with the requirements and the overall transport and maritime transport policy.

The inclusion of the aspects related to the interoperability between the NSW and SSN in the IFCD is therefore inherent to this ongoing revision process and conform to the HLSG decision for SSN v.3.

As regards the NSW and its direct connection to central SSN, depending on the way a Member State decides to establish the NSW, the IFCD should not rule out that the national SSN is an integral part of the NSW and therefore the NSW connects directly to the central SSN.

In view of this explanation the "National Single Window" role and corresponding access rights are retained in the draft IFCD.

5. ACTION REQUIRED

The SSN Group is invited to validate the draft IFCD in Annex.

The revised draft IFCD will be sent to HLSG 11 (June 2014, to be confirmed) for approval.

Annex: Draft IFCD (version 1.1)