

REVISED FOUNDING REGULATION NOW IN FORCE

The long-awaited amendments to the founding regulation were published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 9 February 2013 and have now entered into force. Regulation (EU) No 100/2013 finetunes EMSA's tasks and clarifies some governance issues. The amended regulation specifies the role of the Agency in assisting the Commission and in facilitating cooperation between the Commission and Member States, and its work with Member States.



Marine pollution from oil and gas installations now part of EMSA's remit

Core tasks also include traffic monitoring systems, supporting the investigation of marine casualties and incidents, provision of technical assistance in case of pollution caused by ships

as well as marine pollution caused by oil and gas installations. The amended founding regulation also includes the geographical extension of technical assistance to European Neighbourhood Policy countries. Overall, the Agency shall contribute to the efficiency of maritime traffic and maritime transport, so as to facilitate the establishment of a European maritime transport space without barriers. The amended regulation also introduces the potential for ancillary tasks to be assigned to the Agency under certain conditions in order to use its expertise and tools for other EU activities related to the EU's maritime transport policy.

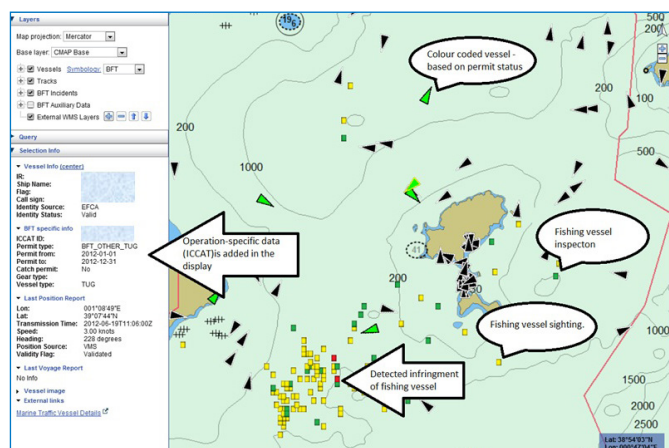
ANTICIPATING THE HUMAN IMPACT OF POLLUTION



Fifty participants attended the Third Joint Workshop on Coordinated at-Sea and Shoreline Pollution Response

The '3rd Joint Workshop on Coordinated at-Sea and Shoreline Pollution Response', co-organised by EMSA and the European Commission (DG ECHO), was held on 12-13 February. The workshop was well attended with 50 participants from marine pollution, shoreline pollution and civil protection authorities from the EU, EEA/EFTA states, EU Candidate Countries and the Regional Agreements, as well as relevant industry representatives. The workshop's first day addressed the topic of health and safety during pollution response operations, while the discussions on the second day focused on national training standards for responders and volunteers and the international exchange of experts during major pollution incidents. Best practices, gaps and proposed ways forward were identified through interactive discussion groups, enabling the exchange of experience and expertise among the different authorities.

IMDatE PROVIDES ITS FIRST SERVICES



An example of the tailored-made integrated maritime picture for EFCA

The Integrated Maritime Data Environment (IMDatE), a technical platform which can combine and process data from EMSA's maritime applications and external sources, went live on 1 March 2013. Diverse user communities can now benefit from comprehensive and configurable integrated maritime surveillance services, customised to their specific needs. IMDatE is already providing integrated maritime services to EFCA (European Fisheries Control Agency) for a series of regional campaigns, and to EUNAVFOR for anti-piracy activities off the coast of Somalia. Access will also be granted to six Member States that have volunteered to be part of a pilot phase that will run until October to provide feedback on the IMDatE services. The experiences from this pilot will be discussed with Member States at the next IMDatE User Consultation meeting in November.

VICE-ADMIRAL CARVALHO ABREU VISITS EMSA



Executive Director Markku Mylly compliments Vice-Admiral Carvalho Abreu at EMSA HQ

On 27 February, EMSA's Executive Director Markku Mylly welcomed a delegation of the Portuguese Navy led by Vice Chief of Naval Staff, Vice-Admiral Carvalho Abreu. Portuguese naval officers visited the Maritime Support Services and the Agency's HQ. They shared information on activities of mutual interest and the Portuguese side was given an overview of EMSA's traffic monitoring systems.



Documents: EMSA Work Programme 2013 - Rules of Procedure of the Administrative Board of the European Maritime Safety Agency - Consolidated text

Careers: Project Officer for Pollution Preparedness and Response (Closing date for applications: 8 April 2013)