

PERMANENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

Salient Points

8th meeting, 19 – 21 June 2018

Attendees

The eighth meeting of the Permanent Cooperation Framework (PCF) for the investigation of accidents in the maritime transport sector was held at EMSA premises during 19-21 June 2018.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Steve Clinch, the PCF Chairperson, assisted by Mr Ron Damstra, as Deputy Chairperson.

The meeting was attended by 36 experts from 27 organisations representing 25 Member States and Norway (MS). The European Commission (COM) was represented by DG – MOVE and assisted by EMSA. The Secretariat for the meeting was provided by EMSA.

The PCF meeting was preceded by an EMSA meeting focussed on (i) presentation of the horizontal analysis (HA) of 1st visit cycle related to the implementation of Directive 2009/18/EC, and (ii) Ex post evaluation on Directive 2009/18/EC.

Introduction

The main agenda points were:

- **Adoption of PCF7 Report and PCF7 Salient points;**
- **Updates by Member States, EMSA and COM;**
- **Purpose, scope, application:**
 - Legal clarification on certain provisions of Directive 2009/18/EC (AI Directive)
 - Proposal for implementing LS guidance on definitions on marine casualties
 - Work Group 11 progress report: Definitions on marine casualties
 - Proposed amendment of PCF ToR
- **Operational readiness / Initial assessment and response**
 - Feedback on:
 - List of web sources to gather information on marine accidents and incidents
 - Practices/procedures on data confidentiality when external expert contracted to support an investigation
 - Updated list of national resources
 - Best practices for AI
- **Strategy and evidence collection**
 - Work Group 14 progress report: best practices for evidence collection
- **Analysis**
 - Work Group 13 progress report: Work plan on HE following workshop
- **Safety recommendations**
 - Feedback on principles for drafting SR
 - Work Group 9 progress report on Lessons Learned
- **Investigation reports**
 - Technical observations on final reports for improving their quality
- **Outcome of safety investigations**
 - EMCIP data sharing
 - Feedback on EMCIP data requests
 - Proposal for amending data sharing principles related to UG3
 - Feedback on Early alerts
 - Methodology for analysing EMCIP data to detect safety issues and analysis on FV
- **Training / Qualification**
 - Work Group 4 progress report: Training / Qualification

- Training activities by EMSA: (i) done, and (ii) planned for 2018
- **EMCIP**
 - New EMCIP (development, data migration, training, feedback form EMCIP UG)
 - Feedback on data quality
 - Reporting guidelines
 - Presentation of EMSA SafeSeaNet Ecosystem GUI (SEG)
- **Work Programme**
- **Election of PCF Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson**
- **AOB**
 - Consolidation of existing PCF agreements in a single document
 - Input for inter-sessional PCF workshop

Summary of the main PCF outcomes

Purpose, scope, application

EMSA introduced an assessment of the **impact in EMCIP following the interpretation by the legal Service of the Commission** on a number of topics relevant to AI. It was evaluated as having a limited technical impact on EMCIP, mainly related to updating the automatic checking rules, the Reporting Guidelines and the Data Quality process for the a posteriori quality check

MS actively discussed and, following some amendments to the text, a common understanding was reached.

Norway introduced a paper aiming at clarifying **which is the right forum for the development of the EMCIP** database scheme in accordance with Art. 17(4) of AI Directive and proposing amendments to the PCF ToR agreed at PCF1. EMSA will ask the MS' Permanent Representatives to indicate which organisation at national level should be involved for EMCIP-related issues and their point of contact.

PCF WG progress report

WG4 on training/qualification was mandated by the Group to continue its work to finalize catalogue of training courses and to draft guidelines on report writing.

The progress report from **WG9** on promulgation of SR and LL was well received by the Group. MS were invited to draft LL to be further discussed within the WG9 as an exercise and assess whether it could produce something meaningful as a collective action.

WG11 on issues related to some definitions on AI delivered its progress report. The Group validated its outcomes and COM will consider the text drafted as guidance on a future proposal for amending the AI Directive.

WG13 elaborated a plan for integrating the HE in accident investigation with a view to promote a common perspective for EU AIBs. The proposal comprised a programme structured in 6 working packages. The Group decided to give priority to develop a common understanding on HE and to draft the program plan for the seminars to be organised in the coming years.

WG14 on evidence collection was tasked to continue its work focussing on collecting resources already available to support evidence collection and then assess what could be improved.

WG13 and WG14 will work jointly to prepare a **workshop on data collection relevant to HE** that will be organised in November 2018 at EMSA premises.

Operational readiness / Initial assessment and response

The updated practices/procedures on **data confidentiality** when external expert are contracted to support an investigation and the **list of national resources** were validated by the Group.

Investigation report

The proposal from EMSA to develop a **methodology aiming at drafting technical observation** on final reports for improving data quality was well received by the Group. A draft will be shared with PCF to gather comments.

Outcome of safety investigations

EMSA provided figures on the **requests for EMCIP data** received from PCF5 on, showing an increasing trend in the number of requests for EMCIP data.

A proposal for amending the policy for **sharing data for UG3** (other entitled authorities) was introduced with the view to ensure access for those users to the information on marine casualties and incidents of national interest (i.e. where the entitled authority is Flag State, Coastal State or Other Interested State).

In general, the proposal was supported by the Group.

Moreover, EMSA introduced a **methodology to analyse data reported in the EMCIP** with the view to detect potential safety issues and its application on FV.

Training and qualification

EMSA informed the Group about the **training initiatives** after PCF7 that have been already organised or yet to be delivered, in particular the CSC sessions planned in 2018.

EMCIP

EMSA informed the Group that the **new EMCIP** was in the pre-production and the plan was to go live begin September 2018, following additional technical and quality assurance tests.

The migration plan had been revised accordingly and a detailed plan will be circulated begin July. Consequently, AIBs will be contacted for the procedure and coordination with EMSA.

The possibility to implement in the new EMCIP the occurrence reporting tool for non-registered users was discussed and the majority of the Group supported its development.

EMSA provided a consolidated **feedback on a posteriori data quality checks** for notifications mentioning the most common inconsistencies.

Moreover, a plan for amending the existing **guidelines supporting the reporting in EMCIP** was announced.

EMSA Unit C.4.1 (Integrated Services Design) presented an overview and a live demo of SafeSeaNet Ecosystem GUI (**SEG**) application, supporting operational maritime awareness to MS. It was recalled that AIB are entitled users of tool and can request access to their national point of contact.

AOB

The Group validated the **document consolidating the PCF agreements**, thus ensuring a good monitoring of the documents (changes, updated version, etc.) as well as ease access to the overall agreements.

Following the successful PCF seminar on HE held in 2017, the Group agreed to organize another workshop focused on **evidence collection relevant to HE**. WG13 and WG14 will cooperate in preparing the agenda.

Election of PCF Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

Mr Jonas Bäckstrand (SHK – Sweden) was elected as Chairperson. Mr Ron Damstra was re-elected as Deputy-Chairperson.