4th CISE Stakeholder Group meeting held through VTC on 9 June 2020

Meeting report

Final Version
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CISE

Project funded
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EMSA

Table of Contents

List of Abbreviations

CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment
COM	European Commission
CSG	CISE Stakeholder Group
DG MARE	European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
DG MOVE	European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport
ECGFF	European Coast Guard Functions Forum
EDA	European Defence Agency
EEA	European Economic Area
EEAS	European External Action Service
EFCA	European Fisheries Control Agency
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
EU	European Union
EUCISE2020	European test bed for the maritime Common Information Sharing Environment in the 2020 perspective
Frontex	European Border and Coast Guard Agency
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
JRC	European Commission's Joint Research Centre
MAOC (N)	The Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics
MS	Member States of the European Union
MSEG	Sub-Group on the Integration of Maritime Security and Surveillance
RTS	Responsibility to Share
SatCen	European Union Satellite Centre
VTC	Video Teleconference
WG	Working Group

1.   Introduction

1.1   Background

The 4th CISE Stakeholder Group (CSG) meeting took place through VTC on 9 June 2020. The meeting was convened by the CSG Chairman Mr Leendert Bal, EMSA.

The following CSG Member States and institutions were represented at the meeting: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, The Netherlands, European External Action Service (EEAS), European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), European Union Satellite Centre (SatCen), European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission DG MARE and European Commission DG MARE (the full list of participants is in the Annex 5.1).

The meeting presentations can be downloaded at the following URL: http://www.emsa.europa.eu/cise/meetings-and-workshops.html

2.   Meeting session

2.1   Opening session

Leendert Bal, Head of Department Safety, Security and Surveillance at EMSA, welcomed all Member States and agencies to the fourth meeting of the CISE Stakeholder Group (CSG).

Mr Bal expressed appreciation to members for joining the meeting in its VTC format, a measure that had been taken because of the COVID-19 outbreak. The 5th CSG meeting will most likely also have to be held in VTC, tentatively on 6-7 October 2020 in VTC on two consecutive mornings.

The agenda was adopted (see section 5.2).

Christos Economou, Head of Unit Maritime Policy and Blue Economy and acting Director for DG MARE, described the following state of play of CISE.

The process to transfer the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) from the EUCISE2020 project to the Commission has still not been finalised. It was expected from the beginning that the results from the EUCISE2020 project could be transferred quickly to the Commission (at the latest by November 2019) for an efficient progress of the Transitional Phase. The conditions for the transfer turned out to be complex since it entailed agreement from all members of the EUCISE2020 consortium. For some time now, the only signatory missing is of the United Kingdom. The Commission is doing what it can to advance on the IPR transfer, while also acknowledging that the discussions are difficult due to the ongoing EU-UK negotiations on the future relationship. Fortunately, this situation has not hindered EMSA and the CSG for progressing on many of the activities in parallel.

As an update on available funds to support CISE initiatives, Mr Economou further informed that the negotiations on the EU budget for the next seven years are ongoing, both on the new Commission proposals including the EU recovery plan to address the current crisis and on the next European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). However, Mr Economou underlined that there is a possibility to finance activities related to CISE included in the Commission proposal for a new EMFF and so far, there seems to be a common understanding of the co-legislators to maintain this possibility. Member States are advised that when they plan their funding needs for CISE nationally, they should also discuss possibilities with their financial departments in the context of the programming for EMFF.

The European Maritime Day that was planned to take place in mid-2020 in Ireland, and where EMSA would have held a CISE workshop, unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the spread of the coronavirus.

Mr Economou, referring to a question from the previous CSG meeting on the time for the next MSEG meeting, informed that no such meeting had been scheduled yet. However, on 17 June 2020 there will be a meeting with the Council Friends of the Presidency Group (FoP Security) in Brussels. Germany, as incoming EU Council presidency, are kindly asked to keep CISE on the agenda of the same formation of the Council to update Member States about the state of play of the transitional phase.

Mr Bal thanked DG MARE for the information and reflected in particular on the serious delay of the IPR. Those Transitional Phase activities that are not dependent on the IPR are progressing well. In order to mitigate the issue related to the IPR the development, a new version of the node (v2.0) started. The v2.0 will be implemented on the grounds of the EUCISE2020 lessons learnt. Those have been shared with the stakeholders in the latest Configuration Board meeting. The v2.0 will replace the current version of the node in a transparent way and MS do not need to change their adaptors. The investment of the node administrators in conducting the on-going exercises such as the test campaign, MARSEC exercise and the pre-operational service (incident and risk) will contribute to provide input to improve the functionalities in the v2.0 and get familiar with the functionalities to be used. In fact, the new version will make use of several of the functionalities implemented in the EUCISE2020 prototype. The v2.0 will address the recurrent issues that have been raised by MS in terms of incidents or problems. We have collected several important inputs in these months using the prototype implemented by EUCISE2020. The v2.0 will be used as the basis to target the classified network. On this topic there is an on-going work in the Security Study where the stakeholders are involved.

The initial plan is to deliver the v2.0 by February 2021. In the meantime, the technical and operational support to the version developed by EUCISE2020 will continue. It is important to mention that the roll-out of v2.0 having already the EUCISE2020 version installed will guarantee also the business continuity of the service, MS will switch to the new version only when the integration test will be successfully completed. The Configuration Board will be regularly updated about the status of the implementation.

Questions & Answers

BL	Bulgaria expressed appreciation for the progress done and asked whether the development of a v2.0 will be granted to an external contractor or to COM-JRC.
EMSA	EMSA replied that a framework contract with a software company is already in place which can be used for this task. The specifications will be drafted by EMSA with assistance from JRC
COM-JRC	Bartel Meersman (head of Transport and Border Security unit at COM-JRC) supported the development of a v2.0 and noted that it should be prepared in close cooperation with the Configuration Board WG. Mr Meersman also mentioned that the newly appointed Director-General for DG MARE, Ms Charlina Vitcheva, has a background in COM-JRC and has valuable knowledge related to CISE.
EMSA	EMSA confirmed that the Configuration Board WG will be actively involved in the process and that also the CSG will be regularly updated.

2.2   Transitional phase activities

2.2.1   Transitional phase activities

EMSA provided an update on the status of the activities defined for the project and the time plan for their completion. The decisions from previous meetings were listed and their status followed up. Related to the time plan for the project, all the activities that do not rely on the IPR transfer are on track. Furthermore, in addition to the new EMSA node also EFCA is working to establish a new node in the network, tentatively it is planned to be deployed by September 2020.

A training for Node Administrators will be held through VTC on 1 and 2 July. All countries or agencies that have a node should participate. All CSG members are also welcomed to contact EMSA if they have any ideas for training or best practices workshops.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

2.2.2   CISE Network and Service Catalogue

EMSA presented an overview of the current status of the CISE Network and of the information members have declared to be willing to exchange through the network.

The CISE Network diagram is in the presentation which will be published on the CISE website after the meeting. CSG members are encouraged to contact EMSA if they have any comments or suggested adjustments of it.

In order to get a better idea of what the network and catalogue will bring in the future, CSG members will be asked during the next CSG meeting to take the floor and share their plans for the implementation of CISE and what information they intend to share.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

2.2.3   Test Campaign

EMSA presented the outcome and conclusions of the first test campaign conducted during April-May 2020.

The test campaign proved that the services tested are working properly and one of the benefits of the test period mentioned was the excellent communication channel established between node administrators for collaboration and problem solving.

Looking forward, the 2nd test campaign started and it will last until November 2020. The nodes of the CISE network that were not part of the 1st test campaign should take part now. The request to be part of the test campaign shall be sent to support-cise@emsa.europa.eu as soon as possible.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

Questions & Answers

EFCA	EFCA expressed appreciation in particular to EMSA and COM-JRC for the support with developing the EFCA node.
	Regarding the Friends of Presidency Group meeting on 17 June 2020, which had been mentioned by COM-DG MARE in their opening speech, EFCA plans to attend and will be ready to support CISE.
	EFCA further informed that they will host an ECGFF event at EFCA and that this can be a good opportunity to address CISE.
BL	Bulgaria expressed support to add new services to the CISE network.
	Bulgaria informed that they are entering into a new contract for their national network which means that they will be prepared and interested in taking part in the 2nd test campaign.

On the grounds of the presentation and discussion, decision D4/1 was taken, see section 3 of this document.

2.3   Discussion papers

2.3.1   **Request to join CISE (MAOC-N)**

EMSA presented a request from MAOC (N) to join the CISE network, as presented in the discussion paper that had been distributed ahead of the meeting. The proposal forwarded to the CSG was to offer MAOC (N) the role of permanent observer for the duration of the Transitional Phase.

Questions & Answers

ES ARMADA	Spain (Armada) requested further information about whether MAOC (N) had expressed a will to set up a node and to share information, which could be related to law enforcement. Spain can support the role of Observer, however if a party wants to become full member, they should aim to have a node and be able to share, and in addition sign the Cooperation Agreement.
EMSA	Mr Bal confirmed that the proposal on the table is only for granting observer status. Any future sharing of information will be discussed and decided in the future if this would be pursued.

EFCA	EFCA referred to what COM-DG MARE had pointed out in their opening speech about the ongoing EU-UK negotiations on the future relationship. MAOC (N) is an intergovernmental organisation with 7 countries including the UK and EFCA would therefore like the relationship to be further elaborated.
EMSA	Mr Bal expressed that in the aspect of law enforcement, the relation to MAOC (N) can be different than the relation to the UK. In fact, there is an on-going negotiation to further finance MAOC (N) by the Commission (DG HOME). For institutional matters however, EMSA will refer to the Commission.
COM-DG MARE	Mr Economou referred to their internal discussions where institutionally they do not see a problem with offering the observer status to MAOC (N). Regardless of Brexit, there is room for cooperation. In the future the EU-UK relation will be clearer and also the conditions for how we can work together. For now, it is considered a good proposal to open for cooperation with MAOC (N) as observer, a careful way forward that the COM can support.
BL	Bulgaria reminded members that CISE is a voluntary information sharing driven by initiatives and ambition. Especially in this early stage it is good to include partners and the field of MAOC (N) is interesting.
EL	Greece (Hellenic Navy) expressed that for the time being they were not authorised to accept new members and therefore needed more time.
EMSA	Mr Bal referred to the CISE Governance Structure which allows appropriate organisations or experts to participate as observers upon the agreement of the CSG.

The Chair summed up the discussions by concluding that there had been a general support to allow MAOC (N) to participate as observers to the Transitional Phase of CISE. Greece, being the only member not being able to accept during the meeting, kindly offered to consult internally and come back to the CISE secretariat before the 19 June 2020. If there is still a reluctance, the matter will be addressed at the 5th CSG meeting in October. If not, the discussion will be considered concluded to allow the observer status. The outcome will be duly communicated to MAOC (N).

On the grounds of the presentation and discussion, decisions D4/2 was taken, see section 3 of this document.

2.3.2   Incident Alerting service

EMSA presented the proposal for a new, pre-operational incident alerting service, as it had been described in the discussion paper (including annex) distributed ahead of the meeting.

Questions & Answers

COM - DG MARE	Mr Economou added to the introduction that it is important to show the added value and potential use of this new service, so that all participants can understand how they want to advance with this type of service. He also reminded that there is a link to a second discussion paper from Bulgaria.
COM - DG MOVE	Jacob Terling (Principal Administrator at Maritime Safety Unit in DG MOVE) agreed and underlined that it should be clear in which types of situations these services will be used. As an example, crew lists are already shared in the mandatory system and it is very important that services in CISE are complementary to the already existing ones.
FR	France expressed that the interconnectivity of the system is important. We should avoid developing a procedure where users have to manually copy a list from the one system to another because they are not interconnected. France could support these types of incident reports if they it is an automatized, system-to-system sharing. We should strive for an easy procedure for the operators.
	During the COVID-19 outbreak there were some cases of ship crew that were affected. The information was coming from different angles and was not easy to handle.

EMSA	Mr Bal commented that CISE is in many cases not really overlapping, since the user community is maritime surveillance including in the classified domain, which is unique since there is no such other network today.
	Mr Bal further agreed with previous speakers that it is important to identify what the most important use cases are for CISE.
ES GUCI	Spain (Guardia Civil) agreed with FR that the procedure should be simple and automatic.
BL	Bulgaria reminded members that these incident reports are important for activities such as search and rescue and that it is exchange of information that gives an added value. It is possible to prevent overlapping.
COM-DG MOVE	Mr Terling emphasized again the need to avoid duplicatoin and expressed that one of the benefits of having CISE coordinated by EMSA is to avoid the development of parallel systems/networks where information needs to be transferred on a usb stick, as described by some members relating to other systems. The key is to find the situations where the new services will have an added value. One such situation might concern stowaways related information that has to be shared between border police, immigration or a limited number of actors within the community.

The Chair concluded that the CSG had expressed an interest in the proposed services and that the activity could proceed according to the way forward as presented in the discussion paper. The discussion during the meeting about identifying use cases where it will be beneficial to use CISE will be useful in this process. All members are invited to take part in the development of the new service.

On the grounds of the presentation and discussion, decisions D4/3 was taken, see section 3 of this document.

2.3.3   Risk services (Bulgaria)

Peter Kirov, Bulgaria, presented the proposal to develop a new pre-operational risk service in CISE, as described in the discussion paper distributed ahead of the meeting.

As examples of situations when this type of risk profiling can be relevant, Mr Kirov mentioned situations with ports under embargo or where the true flag of a ship is hidden through several layers of ownerships.

EMSA	EMSA thanked Bulgaria for their proposal and noted the relation to the proposed incident alerting services just discussed, and that the position of the CSG is likely to be the same.
COM-DG MOVE	Mr Terling shared a reflection that even if the example given by Bulgaria about sanctions might be more in the area of intelligence information, there could be other, related use cases. Also in the enforcement of the EU regulation on ship recycling there are actors changing flag in several layers to avoid responsibilities.

It was agreed that the same position as for the proposal in section 2.3.2 above would apply for this proposal. The CSG could therefore support the proposed way forward as described in the discussion paper.

On the grounds of the presentation and discussion, decisions D4/4 was taken, see section 3 of this document.

2.4   Cooperation agreement

EMSA provided a status of the ongoing work in the working group.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

The CSG took note of the information.

2.5 Responsibility to Share

EMSA provided a status of the ongoing work in the working group.

The CSG was reminded to nominate a member to this working group.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

The CSG took note of the information.

2.6 Technical and operational support

Part A

JRC provided an update on the technical and operational support provided by JRC and EMSA.

In particular, a report was given from the first meeting of the Configuration Board Working Group on 29 May 2020.

An update was also provided about the Security Study that will be conducted from March 2020 to June 2021. The procurement had been finalised and a contractor engaged for the task to perform the study, in close cooperation with the group of experts nominated by CSG members.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

Questions & Answers

COM-DG MARE	DG MARE encouraged the involvement in the Security Study and looked forward to learning more about the progress at the next CSG meeting.
EMSA	EMSA pointed out that the Security Study will be important to move on to the sharing of classified information in CISE.

Part B

EMSA gave an update of the support requests managed during the period February to May 2020.

(For detailed information please see the presentation).

The information was noted.

Before the closing of the meeting, Germany reminded participants that they are encouraged to participate in the standardization work in the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

The meeting was concluded.

3.   Meeting outcomes

3.1   Decisions

The following decisions have been taken during the meeting:

Decision number	Description	Note
D4/1 – Test Campaign	The CSG agreed that the 2nd test campaign should be conducted and include the nodes not part of the 1st test campaign. Node Owners that are interested in participating should contact EMSA.	Node owners should contact: cise@emsa.europa.eu
D4/2 – Discussion paper – request to join CISE	MAOC-N will be offered observer status at the CSG.	After the meeting within the deadline Greece confirmed having no objections. Decision will be communicated to MAOC-N.
D4/3 – Discussion paper – pre-operational incident alerting service	The CSG agreed that a pre-operational incident alerting service should be developed in CISE.	EMSA will invite Node Owners for a meeting (in VTC) to review the proposal and agreed to the plan. The implementation of this service will be conducted in collaboration with the Node Administrators participating to this pre-operational service.
D4/4 – Discussion paper – pre-operational incident alerting service	The CSG agreed that a pre-operational risk service should be developed in CISE.	EMSA will invite Node Owners for a meeting (in VTC) to review the proposal and agreed to the plan. The implementation of this service will be conducted in collaboration with the Node Administrators participating to this pre-operational service.

Decision Number: CSG meeting / Decision number (i.e. D1/1 is the 1st decision agreed during the 1st CSG).

4. Conclusion

The CSG was updated on the work breakdown structure and the plan to implement the CISE transitional phase activities, thus a number of decisions and tasks were agreed during the meeting (see section 3 of this document).

The 5th CSG meeting is planned to take place through on 6-7 October 2020 through VTC on two consecutive mornings.

5. Annexes

5.1 List of Participants

country	firstname	lastname	organization
Belgium	Thierry	Segers	Belgian Navy
Bulgaria	Peter	Kirov	Bulgarian Maritime Administration
Croatia	Niko	Hrdalo	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure
Croatia	Ivan	Kuseta	Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure
Cyprus	Michael	Markou	Shipping Deputy Ministry
Finland	Mikko	Hirvi	The Finnish Border Guard
France	Ronan	Chastanet	SGMER
Germany	Bernhard	Wehner	FGMSSC
Greece	Nikolaos	Sourounis	Hellenic Coast Guard
Greece	Nikolaos	Petrakos	Hellenic Navy
Ireland	Brian	Mathews	Irish Naval Service
Italy	Luca	Bertocchi	Italian Navy
Italy	Luigi	Ciani	Italian Navy
Italy	Giuseppe	Codispoti	Italian Space Agency
Latvia	Ojars	Gerke	Latvian Coast Guard
Malta	Jason	Bongailas	Malta Marittima Agency
Malta	Noel	Galea	Authority for Transport in Malta
Norway	Bjornar	Kleppe	Norwegian Coastal Administration
Portugal	Vasco	Marques Prates	Marinha
Portugal	Paula	Madeira	DGPM
Portugal	Joao	Ferreira	Portuguese Navy
Romania	Oprescu	Mircea	Romanian Border Police
Spain	Gonzalo	Lafita Becerril	Guardia Civil
Spain	Luis	Calviño Garcia	Armada
Spain	Vicente	Solla Alvarez	Dirección General de la Marina Mercante
Spain	Alejandro	Cervantes	Armada Española / COVAM
The Netherlands	Henk	Rohaan	MoDNL/ NLCG
	Athanasios	Moustakas	EEAS
	Geraud	Montagut	EEAS
	Bartel	Meersman	European Commission - JRC
	Christos	Economou	European Commission - DG MARE
	Alexandru	Chiric	European Commission - DG MARE
	Anton	Nilsson	European Commission - DG MARE
	Alexander	Hoffman	European Commission - DG MOVE
	Jacob	Terling	European Commission - DG MOVE
	Jesus	Hermida	European Commission - JRC
	David	Berger	European Commission - JRC
	Patricia	Romeyro Mascarenhas	SATCEN
	Denis	Bruckert	SATCEN
	Vytautas	Lukas	European Fisheries Control Agency
	Sven	Tahon	European Fisheries Control Agency

The following EMSA staff participated at the meeting:

- Leendert Bal (meeting Chairman)
- Gianluca Luraschi (CISE Project Manager)
- Anna Bizzozero (Administrative Officer for CISE)
- Nuria Decker (Financial, Budget and Procurement Officer for CISE)
- Daniele Colasimone (Configuration and Deployment Officer for CISE)
- Lola Carmona Zafra (Financial, Budget and Procurement Officer for CISE)
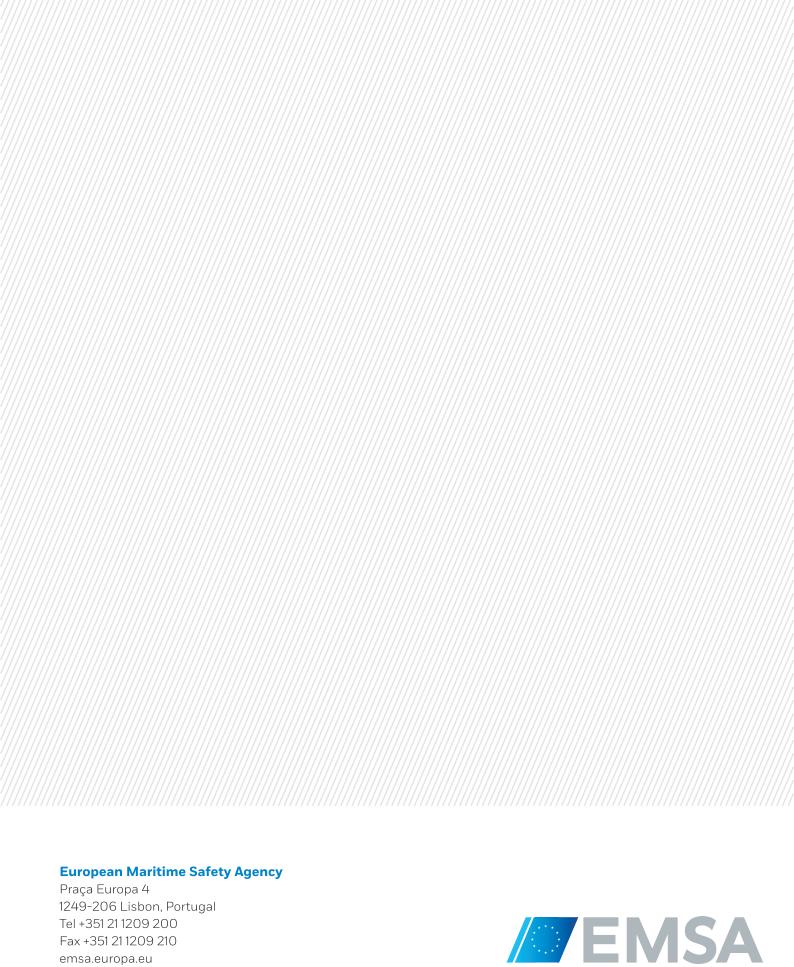- Maria de Fatima Grilo (National Expert in Professional Training)

5.2   Agenda

Video teleconference, 09 June 2020

Tuesday, 09 June 2020 10.00 – 12.30* CEST	

Time (CEST)	Agenda Item
09:30 – 10:00	**Connection support**
10:00 – 10:10	**Logistics** - How to intervene during the VTC
10:10 – 10:30	**Opening session** - Agenda and welcome (EMSA) - Introductory remarks by DG MARE
10:30 – 10:50	**Transitional phase activities** - Overall status report - Current status of the CISE network - Test Campaign
10:50 – 11:10	**Discussion papers** - Request to join CISE (MAOC-N) - Incident Alerting service - Risk services (Bulgaria)
11:10 – 11:20	**Cooperation agreement** - Status report on the ongoing work in the Cooperation Agreement Working Group
11:20 – 11:30	**Responsibility to share** - Status report on the ongoing work in the RTS Working Group
11:30 – 11:45	**Technical and Operational support** - Status of the work conducted by EMSA and JRC to support
11:45 – 12:00*	**Summary and conclusions**

(*) Due to the type of meeting (VTC based) it is recommended to allocate your time for this meeting until 12:30 in case the sessions will take longer either for technical reasons or for discussion purposes.