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QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

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HUMAN ELEMENT WORKSHOP PUTS SEAFARERS CENTRE STAGE

EMSA held a two-day workshop on the human element in October, revolving around four central themes: the availability of seafarers to the EU fleet and worldwide; attracting young people into the shipping industry; maritime education and training within the current international regulatory framework; and, changing scenarios and opportunities for improvement. During the workshop, the recent EMSA Report on Statistics on Seafarers in the EU, together with the ICS-BIMCO Manpower Update, were presented and discussed. The workshop also had speakers from EMSA's accident investigation and training and cooperation units, together with representatives from the European Commission, the International Chamber of Shipping and the Maritime Accident Investigation Unit of Malta. Participants included representatives from EU maritime administrations and maritime education and training institutions.

OPEN DAY ABOARD THE OIL SPILL RESPONSE VESSEL BALLUTA BAY

EMSA arranged an open day aboard the oil spill response vessel Balluta Bay on 4 October to coincide with the Malta maritime summit. EMSA's Executive Director presented the Agency's oil spill response services to Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary General, Thodoros Dritsas, Shipping Minister of Greece, Marios Demetriades, Transport Minister of Cyprus, Joe Mizzi, Transport Minister of Malta as well as to other high ranking officials present at the summit.



HARNESSING EARTH OBSERVATION DATA FROM SATELLITE IMAGERY FOR FISHERIES CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Through the Copernicus Maritime Surveillance Service, EMSA is now able to provide an extended range of earth observation data to new and existing users for maritime surveillance purposes. The first images acquired through the service were delivered in early September, for the purposes of fisheries control (to the European Fisheries Control Agency, EFCA) and law enforcement (to the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics (MAOC (N)). Since then the service has provided over 100 images to support these two areas of activity. To help users understand the potential of earth observation data, as well as to train them in how to use the Integrated Maritime Service interface correctly to view satellite images combined with other data, EMSA held two dedicated training sessions: one for MOAC (N) on 13 October, and one for EFCA on 28 October.

INTEGRATED MARITIME SERVICES MOBILE APP UPGRADE NOW AVAILABLE

EMSA has released the second version of its Integrated Maritime Services Mobile App (IMS Mobile App). Available to



IMS registered users of both EU member state authorities and EU bodies, the IMS Mobile App provides direct, light and easy access to EMSA's IMS services and functionalities via your mobile device from both the App Store (iOS on phone and tablet) and the Google Play Store (Android on tablet) - just search for 'EMSA IMS Mobile'.

TOWARDS BETTER IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RULES

EMSA organised a training course on 3-7 October for auditors under the IMO Member State Audit Scheme. The course took place within the framework of the Safemed III project in cooperation with the IMO. The course was delivered by qualified auditors Dan Sarenius from Sweden and Mourad Ghorbel from Tunisia, and the IMO's Tatjana Krilic presented the MSA module currently used by auditors. The first two days of the course offered extensive lectures and exercises on frameworks and procedures, while later in the week the course focused on how an IMO auditor could verify that a state is in compliance with the requirements of the mandatory IMO instruments and the IMO instruments implementation code. A number of EMSA staff also attended the course in preparation for the Agency's support role towards authorities performing coast guard functions.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE HELD OFF THE COAST OF PORTUGAL

On 20 October two of EMSA's contracted vessels, the Bahia Tres (based in Sines, Portugal) and the Monte Anaga (based in Algeciras, Spain) participated in the oil spill response exercise 'Atlantic Polex 2016'. This exercise, organised by the Portuguese National Maritime Authority, took place off the coast of Portimao. EMSA vessels were deployed in an offshore scenario that envisaged a collision between a cargo vessel and a tanker resulting in a 6000 m³ spill of crude oil. The Monte Anaga was tasked to recover oil, while the Bahia Tres was initially ordered to deploy a dispersant spraying system and then its sweeping arms. Each of EMSA's standby vessels regularly undergoes at-sea response exercises to ensure a high level of preparedness should a serious oil spill occur.



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CAREERS: SNE Project Officer for Equasis (deadline: 21/11/2016) PROCUREMENT: Travel agency services (deadline: 20/12/2016) PUBLICATIONS: Equasis statistics - the world fleet in 2015