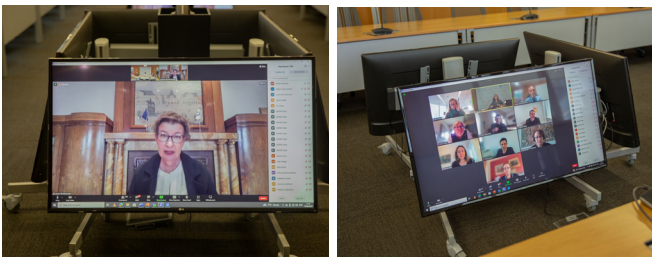


SECOND EDITION OF EUROPEAN MARITIME TRANSPORT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

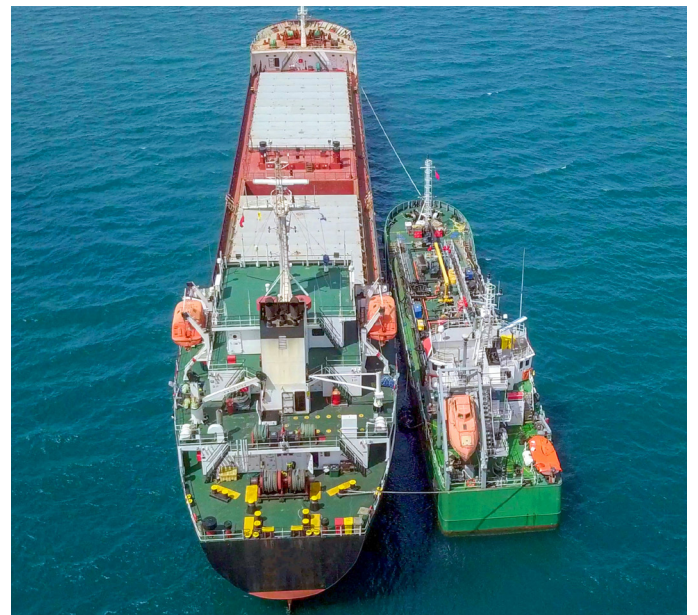
The stakeholder consultation workshop for the second edition of the European Maritime Transport Environmental Report (EMTER) took place virtually on 14 February. The EMTER report is the first up to date and comprehensive overview of the environmental transport sector in the EU, jointly produced by EMSA and the European Environment Agency (EEA). The [first edition](#) was launched in 2021, and preparations for the second edition are now well under way. During the workshop, representatives of European Commission services, national administrations, industry, civil society, and research and development institutes came together to discuss and debate the ongoing work on the EMTER report. Opening the workshop, EMSA's Executive Director, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, recalled the regulatory progress that has taken place since the launch of the first edition, including the Fit for 55 package at EU level, which includes the extension of the EU Emissions Trading System to maritime transport and FuelEU Maritime, as well as the adoption of the 2023 IMO Strategy on Reduction of GHG Emissions from Ships. Ms. Markovčić Kostelac stressed that the objective of the second edition of EMTER was to go beyond that of a simple update of the first edition and explore new elements, including biodiversity indicators, alternative energy sources, and foresight and forecast components. The stakeholder consultation meeting represents a major milestone in the development of the second edition.



The EMTER stakeholder meeting was jointly hosted by EMSA and the EEA, and brought together representatives of national administrations, EC services, industry, civil society, and research and development institutes.

SAFE BUNKERING WITH BIOFUELS: FIRST PART OF NEW STUDY SERIES LAUNCHED BY EMSA

As the maritime industry moves towards greater sustainability, biofuels have emerged as a possible option for decarbonising the deep-sea sector of the global fleet. However, even though neat biofuel and biofuel blends are currently bunkered in shipping, the safety aspects of these fuels have not been widely studied or understood. As a result, in 2022, EMSA released [an updated study on the potential of biofuels in shipping](#), which identified a selection of biofuels as the most promising for maritime operations. Those biofuels include bio-methanol, bio-FT-diesel, bio-DME, HVO, and FAME and relevant blends. The study took into account of current production capacity, storage-and-distribution infrastructure, and power-generation technologies, with techno-economic analyses and risk-based case studies. Now, EMSA has published the first part of a study on the safety aspect of bunkering with biofuels, providing a comprehensive analysis of a pre-selection of biofuels in terms of safety aspects like flashpoint, toxicity, and cold-flow properties, among others. The study looks at how those aspects can raise safety concerns during bunkering operations in a preliminary hazard identification. The study also examines practices in other industries that may be applicable to the maritime sector and reviews the status of the development of regulations for maritime use, taking into account conventional bunkering arrangements. Forthcoming reports in this series will build on the conclusions of HAZID workshops to draw up a guidance document and safety checklists for the bunkering of these fuels, including comparison with conventional fuels. [The first part of the Study on Safe Bunkering with Biofuels \(bio-methanol, FT-diesel, DME, HVO and FAME\) is available to download here.](#)



VISIT OF DELEGATION FROM THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE TO EMSA

On 1 February, the Executive Director of EMSA, Maja Markovčić Kostelac, welcomed a delegation of members of the European Economic and Social Committee to EMSA. The delegation, headed by Ms Baiba Miltovica, Transport, Energy, Infrastructure, and the Information Society (TEN) Section president, were briefed on EMSA's projects, mandate, and areas of activity, with a focus on the decarbonisation of maritime and the human element in shipping. The delegation then visited the Maritime Support Services Centre at EMSA, where members got to see EMSA's operational services first-hand. The visit ended with a demonstration of EMSA's virtual reality environment for ship inspections, allowing members to see the state-of-the-art training services offered by EMSA through its Academy.



The delegation of members from the European Economic and Social Committee learned more about EMSA's work and mandate during their visit.

20TH INTER-SECRETARIAT MEETING BETWEEN REGIONAL AGREEMENT SECRETARIATS, EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND EMSA

The 20th Inter-Secretariat meeting between the European Regional Sea Conventions, the European Commission and EMSA was hosted by EMSA in our Lisbon headquarters on 6-7 February. The hybrid format meeting was opened by our Executive Director Maja Markovčić Kostelac. Since 2005, these annually held and well-established Inter-Secretariat meetings provide a unique forum promoting the informal exchange of information and good practice among the various regions, aiming to foster dialogue and cooperation in pollution prevention and response work. The agenda included exchanges on ongoing and planned activities and priorities in the field of marine pollution prevention, preparedness, and response and addressed topics of common interest across the various regions.

GREENING AWARD INITIATIVE: STILL TIME TO APPLY FOR THE FIRST EDITION!

There's still time to apply for the Greening Award Initiative, a joint project developed by EMSA, together with the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). The Greening Award Initiative celebrates the sustainability actions that are carried out and developed across more than 300 authorities that make up the European Coast Guard community, and has been developed in the context of European cooperation on coast guard functions. The Initiative recognises projects and activities developed by authorities carrying out coast guard functions which empower a green transition, contribute to a more sustainable future, and which directly or indirectly support the goals of the European Green Deal. Announced in the framework of the Annual European Coast Guard Event held in Lisbon in 2023, the Greening Award Initiative is open to any entity or institution executing Coast Guard Functions within the European Union, Norway, and Iceland. With three categories, the Initiative is aimed at small and large projects alike. The application process is quick and simple, and can be completed entirely online. [Find out more about the Greening Award Initiative including information on the Award categories, how to apply, and the deadline for applications.](#)



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PROCUREMENT: Multimedia support services for EMSA's e-laboratory (20/03/2024); Provision of Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) Training (09/03/2024)