

Meeting: 8th SSN / LRIT Group Meeting

Place and date: Lisbon, 21 October 2020

Agenda item: EMSWe databases

Document number: SSN/LRIT 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 8.3.4

Submitted by EMSA

Summary	This paper presents the final draft of the technical specifications, standards and procedures for the EMSWe Ship Database, EMSWe Common Location Database and EMSWe Common Hazmat Database.
Action to be taken	As per paragraph 3.
Related documents	HLSG DMSS 3.d – Mandate for the EMSWe Databases Team: EMSWe Ship Database, Common Locations Database and Common Hazmat Database

1 Background

The EMSWe Regulation foresees that an EMSWe Ship Database (ESD), a Common Location Database (CLD) and a Common Hazmat Database (CHD) shall be established and be made available to the Maritime National Single Windows (MNSW) in order to facilitate ship reporting.

The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down the technical specifications, standards and processes for the setting up of each database with respect to collecting, storing, updating and provision of the ship identification information and particulars, records on ship reporting exemptions, location and port facilities codes and hazmat reference information.

At its 6th meeting on 20 January 2020, the HLSG agreed to entrust the SSN Group with specific tasks in relation to the provision of technical advice and expertise on the substance of the implementing regulations that the Commission intends to adopt in respect of provisions in articles 14 (ESD), 15 (CLD) and 16 (CHD) of the EMSWe Regulation.

The SSN Group reviewed the draft technical specifications, standards and procedures documents for each EMSWe database during two meeting sessions on 12 May and 24 June 2020.

2 Current Status

The SSN Group agreed on the following actions:

Action Point	Topic and Action	Resp.
1	Revise the EMSWe Databases' datasets specifications if necessary when the EMSWe dataset is defined by the EMSWe Data Thematic Team	EMSA

Action Point	Topic and Action	Resp.
2	Clarify the EMSWe Databases documents to indicate that the commissioning measures of the three databases may be combined	EMSA
3	Indicate the tasks required for the national helpdesk contact points in the EMSWe Databases documents and add a note that the requirements regarding the national helpdesk contact points will be defined in coordination with other EMSWe Teams	EMSA
4	Verify with the UNECE Secretariat what is the status of recommendation No. 16 - UN/LOCODE - CODE FOR PORTS AND OTHER LOCATIONS and what are the changes planned	EMSA
5	Clarify the file formats for the download feature of the ESD (same as EMSWe CLD)	EMSA
6	Investigate the archiving measures in place in EMSA to see whether such measures can be applied to ESD	EMSA
7	Gather the best practices currently in use by local authorities regarding the data quality checks on hazmat information	EMSA
8	Send additional comments to the EMSWe Databases technical specifications, standards and procedures documents by email until 10 July	Participants
9	Assess comments received from participants and prepare final version of the EMSWe Databases technical specifications, standards and procedures documents.	EMSA

As regards action point 4, EMSA organised on 08 September a videoconference with the UNECE Secretariat to check the status of the Recommendation No. 16 and to verify if the planned changes will have an impact on the EMSWe CLD. The Recommendation No.16 has been approved by the UN/CEFACT Bureau and is pending the approval of UN/CEFACT Plenary (planned on 26 November 2020). The following is expected:

- Provide a clear definition of what the UN/LOCODE is, its scope and what granularity should be used;
- Provide clear guidance on all aspects of UN/LOCODE to eliminate areas of ambiguity (e.g. definition of what a location is, addition of new functions, definitions of functions, etc.);
- Provide a procedure and context for registering significant changes;
- Define how Data Maintenance Requests (DMRs) should be announced and communicated;
- Officially designate the use of "0" (zero) as a location that does not have an official function (function zero should not be combined with any other function);
- Consider requiring the registration of those who request codes (for post-verifications or future questions);
- Determine how to standardize multilingual entries and aliases in an unambiguous way;
- Propose solutions for the reuse of UN/LOCODEs (e.g. in child repositories) and how these could be identified and shared in the UN/LOCODE repository.

The full text of the revised Recommendation can be found at:

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/cf_plenary/2020_Plenary/11_ECE_TRADE_C_CEFAC_T_2020_08_E_Rec16rev_UNLOCODE.pdf

The planned changes will not have any impact on the proposed structure of the EMSWe CLD. There will be some changes to UN/LOCODE functions which will only change possible values but not the data elements.

The UNECE is not going to add the child codes to the UN/LOCODE database but will only list them on the UNECE website (<https://www.unece.org/cefact/locode/child-code.html>). This does not engage the United Nations or UN/CEFACT in any way and it does not constitute an endorsement of any kind.

As a conclusion, the child codes from the UNECE webpage are not going to address issue raised by the Netherlands during the previous meeting (i.e. difficulties in reuse of data between the ports under the same port authority with different LOCODEs). As highlighted during the meeting, the EMSWe CLD will not be involved in the access controls when reusing data. The definition of access rights and business rules related to the reuse of data should be discussed by the EMSWe subgroup.

As regards action point 6, the archiving measures for the ESD should follow the recommendations from the SSN Security and Interoperability study (presented to SSN Group 7 and HLSC 7). The use of CEF Building Block eArchiving should be assessed.

As regards action point 7, a survey is being prepared by EMSA to be distributed to NCAs in order to gather national and local authorities' feedback.

As regards action points 8 and 9, comments on the technical specifications, standards and procedures documents were received from Bulgaria, Germany and the Netherlands. The revised technical specifications, standards and procedures documents which address the comments received as well as action points 2, 3 and 5 are provided under agenda items SSN/LRIT 8.3.2, 8.3.3 and 8.3.4.

When validated by the SSN Group, the documents will be submitted to the HLSC for approval. The EMSWe Databases' datasets specifications will be revised if necessary when the EMSWe dataset is defined by the EMSWe Data Thematic Team. This is more likely to happen for the ESD than for the EMSWe CLD and CHD.

As explained at the previous SSN Group meeting, the documents contain the high level technical, functional and operational requirements. More detailed specifications will be described in technical and operational documentation such as system interface guides and user manuals.

3 Actions required

Member States are invited to validate the technical specifications, standards and procedures documents for the ESD, EMSWe CLD and EMSWe CHD provided under agenda items SSN/LRIT 8.3.2, 8.3.3 and 8.3.4.