



KYSTVERKET

Norwegian Coastal Administration

Minutes

Topic: 1st meeting of the North Atlantic AIS Expert Working Group

Date: 02.03.2010

Chairman: Jon Leon Ervik

Reference:

Secretary: Jarle Hauge Date: 02.03.2010

Present: Denmark;
Danish Maritime Safety Administration
Mr. Henry Schuren

EMSA;
Mr. Lazaros Aichmalotidis

Faroe Island;
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Kaj P. Mortensen

Iceland;
Icelandic Maritime Administration
Mr. Baldur Bjartmarsson

Norway;
Norwegian Coastal Administration
Mr. Jon Leon Ervik,
Mr Jarle Hauge,
Mr Finn Martin Vallersnes
Ms Malin Dreijer

United Kingdom;
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Mr. Keith Oliver , (apology for absence)

- The agenda:**
1. Introductory remarks and approval of the Agenda
 2. Approval of report of the previous meeting (Haugesund 16-1-09)
 3. Actions out of previous meeting.
 4. Draft regional agreement for the Northern North Atlantic:
 - 4.1. Review of the agreement
 6. Technical specification examples from existing European Regional Systems in the Baltic, North Sea and Mediterranean Sea
 7. Timetable for development of the regional system
 8. Summary, conclusions and date and venue for next meeting

1. Introductory remarks and approval of the agenda

Mr. Ervik welcomed the participants, underlining that the aim of the meeting was to achieve a common understanding on how to proceed on the establishment of a regional AIS exchange for the Northern North Atlantic and Barents Sea regions. He mentioned that this is the forth meeting discussing the development of the regional server but it should be considered as the first meeting of the Experts Working Group (EWG).

The agenda was approved by the participants. Mr Aichmalotidis suggested including in the agenda two additional points as follows:

- A presentation of the BLAST project (funded under Interreg IV programme) and
- A brief presentation about the outcome of the meeting between EMSA and the Norwegian Coastal Administration that took place the day before and concerned technical issues on S-AIS.

2. Approval of report of the previous meeting (Haugesund 16-1-09)

The participants approved the report of the previous meeting with a small comment from Denmark stating that their support for setting up the North Atlantic regional server was given after the meeting (not at the meeting as stated in the report).

3. Actions from the previous meeting

Mr. Ervik went through the action points agreed at the previous meeting and noticed that due action has been taken for all the points. He mentioned that Norway decided to allocate national resources for setting up the North Atlantic regional server and will take the necessary steps to develop the regional and the national proxies' software (as already developed in the other EU regions).

Mr Ervik gave a presentation on the background of the project, and introduced its particular importance due to the inclusion of the Satellite AIS data (monitoring the Arctic region) that will be distributed to the participating states through the regional North Atlantic AIS server. Mr Ervik also informed the participants about the action taken by Norway for inviting Canada to participate in the works of the EWG.

Mr. Aichmalotidis expressed the Agency's support to the establishment of the North Atlantic regional server and underlined the importance of having Canada as a participating partner in the agreement since Canada is a member of the Paris MOU for PSC. He also highlighted the importance of the regional server since it will be the first source that will bring S-AIS data into SafeSeaNet.

Mr. Aichmalotidis informed the participants of the upcoming meeting in Rome on 16 March 2010 between EMSA and technical representatives from the existing EU regions (North Sea, Baltic and Mediterranean). Norway will be invited to participate in this meeting as the potential hosting country of the new North Atlantic regional AIS server.

4. Review of the agreement

The participants reviewed the agreement and made several corrections/amendments during the meeting. The updated agreement will be handled in correspondence amongst the participants after the meeting. A lot of the proposed amendments will be based upon the Danish experience with the existing agreements in the Helcom and North Sea region.

The representatives expressed their preference for an easy name of the regional server. The adopted suggestion is the use of the term "North Atlantic regional server".

After a discussion regarding the links between the proposed agreement and the EMSA STIRES Condition of Use (CoU), the conclusion was that the agreement is not conflicting with the EMSA CoU. It was however emphasized from EMSA that service levels and performance standards should be specified and regulated at a later stage.

It was agreed that annex 2 of the agreement should be redrafted in simplistic manner by Mr. Hauge and will be distributed to the participant within 2 weeks. The ambition is that the contract will be ready for signing in the end of May, at least before summer.

5. BLAST project

Mr. Vallersnes gave a brief presentation on the BLAST project stating that the harmonized geographical and hydrographical information is crucial in defining the future concept.

6. Examples from existing EU Regional Systems

Mr. Aichmalotidis gave a presentation on SSN, STIRES in particular and an overview of the technology behind the systems.

Regarding the meeting between EMSA and the Norwegian Coastal Administration he introduced the ideas on the use of "comment (or tag) block" in the AIS data stream to solve challenges related to data-source (owner/sensor), recipient, enrichments and data filtering; he explained the relations with the distribution of S-AIS through SafeSeaNet.

7. Timetable for development of the regional system

Mr. Hauge presented the technical scope and milestones of the North Atlantic regional AIS developments. The implementation plan is indicated in the attached Annex 1.

8. AIS Status in the participating countries

The Faroe Islands: They have in place 8 AIS base stations covering the entire sea area around the islands. The AIS network is connected to the North Sea server. They would like to receive AIS data from the offshore installations.

Denmark: The entire shore-based AIS network is in place. Studies show that the cost benefit for shore-based AIS in Greenland is not beneficial. Denmark is planning to install AIS in some wind mile farms.

Iceland: 31 base stations covering the waters of the A1 area. Due to safety of the fishing fleet and fishery control purposes Iceland considers important to enhance redundancy and secure quality. 34 to 35 AIS base stations is considered as optimal.

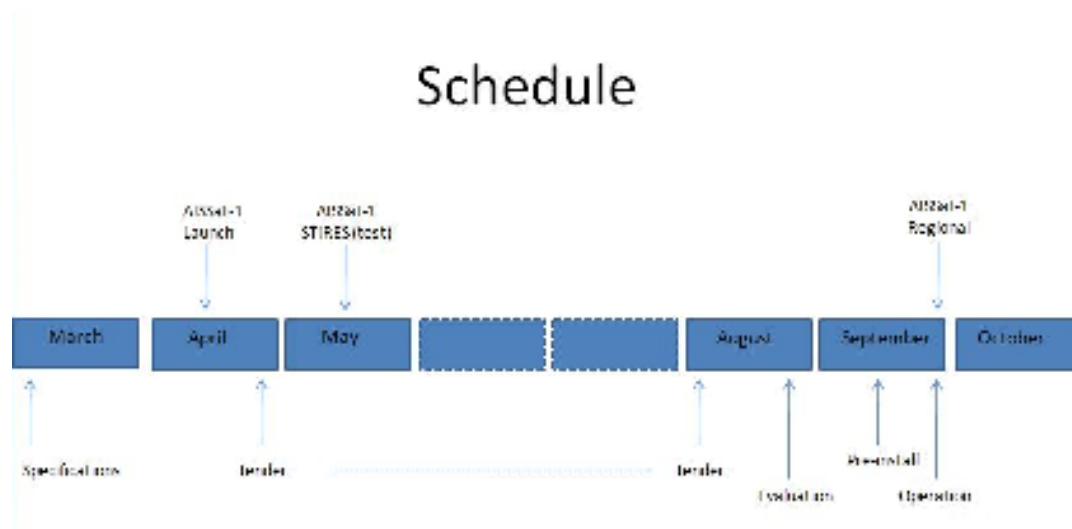
Norway: has in place 39 base stations on the mainland and 2 on Svalbard Iceland and 1 on the Bear Island. The development of additional AIS coverage in the fjords is under study. Norway plans to establish the North Atlantic AIS server in 2010 and to launch a S-AIS in April.

9. Actions from meeting

- a. The agreement will be adjusted in accordance with the existing input and experience from the North Sea. The amended agreement will be distributed to the participants for consultation in week 11 (**Responsible: Ms. Dreijer**) and thereafter there will be two weeks for consultation and comments (**Responsible: All**).
- b. EMSA and NCA will contact Canada (**Responsible: Mr. Aichmalotidis and Mr. Jon Leon Ervik**).
- c. EMSA will make available a documentation folder on the EMSA intranet for storing meetings' documents of the North Atlantic (**Responsible: Mr. Aichmalotidis and Mr. Jon Leon Ervik**).
- d. Ireland will be kept informed about the developments (observer status) (**Responsible: Mr. Jon Leon Ervik**).

The next meeting will be held in October (proposed venue Haugesund).

Schedule



Technical Scope

