

PERMANENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

Salient Points 6th meeting, 20 – 23 June 2016

Executive Summary

Attendees

The sixth meeting of the Permanent Cooperation Framework (PCF) for the Investigation of Accidents in the Maritime Transport Sector was held at EMSA premises during 20-23 June 2016.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Steve Clinch, the PCF Chairperson and Mr Francisco Mata Alvarez-Santullano, the Deputy Chairperson.

The meeting was attended by 31 representatives from 25 different organisations. The European Commission was represented by DG – MOVE and assisted by EMSA. The Secretariat for the PCF was provided by EMSA.

Introduction

The main agenda points of the meeting were:

1. Adoption of PCF5 Report and PCF5 Salient points;
2. Updates by Member States, EMSA and Commission;
3. Discussion on the mitigation measures;
4. Purpose, scope, application: WG7 - Marine Injuries; WG8 – Ship/Shore Operations with a ship; WG10 - Issues of implementation of Directive 2009/18/EC (hereinafter: AI Directive)
5. Operational readiness
6. Initial assessment and response
7. Strategy and evidence collection (WG3 - Confidential data)
8. Analysis (WG6 - Early alerts)
9. Safety recommendations (WG2 - Follow-up; WG9 - Promulgation of SR)
10. Investigation reports (WG5 - Interim report)
11. Outcome of safety investigations (WG1 - Data sharing; Framework on safety on board of Ro/Ro ferries)
12. Training / Qualification (WG4 – Training; update on training activities carried out by EMSA)
13. EMCIP (including reporting issues and future developments)
14. Work Programme
15. AOB
16. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

PCF Working Groups Progress Reports

The **WG4** on training/qualification of accident investigators delivered its progress report. Positive opinion was given to the work done. The comments received will be further developed by the WG during its intersessional work.

Marine injuries were addressed within **WG7**. Following discussions and amendments to the proposal made, a general agreement of the paper was reached. However SE and NO reserved their position on the proposal. SE thought that COM's view on the topic would be welcomed and proposed EMSA to send an official letter to COM regarding these issues. The WG was closed.

WG8 on ship-shore operations with a ship provided common principles with a view to harmonise the approach for accidents falling within, or outside, the ship's jurisdiction. Following the approval of the principles the WG was closed.

WG9 on promulgation of SR will continue its intersessional work. ToR was amended by the PCF.

Activities tasked to **WG10** on issues identified during the implementation of AI Directive were addressed during a workshop organised by EMSA at the end of 2015 and through the mitigation measures addressed during PCF6. It was decided to suspend WG10 until further needs arose.

Feedback on **WG1** on data sharing, **WG2** on follow-up of Safety Recommendations, **WG3** on principles of sharing confidential information, **WG5** on interim report and **WG6** on early alerts was provided.

Mitigation Measures

All the relevant mitigation measures developed following the workshop organised by EMSA and allocated to the PCF were addressed. A number of topics that deserve further discussion will be conveyed to a dedicated Workshop on Best practices to be delivered by end 2016.

European Maritime Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP)

EMSA provided several updates on the activities related to the EMCIP database, including the planned deliverables for 2016, the taxonomy revision and the development of the new system. An update on the reporting issues and the new approach to cope with the occurrence acceptance was introduced. A new project for developing an eLearning module on AI legislation was introduced.

Any Other Business

The 2015 edition of the annual overview of marine casualties and incidents was discussed. It will have a similar structure as in previous years. By end-September, MS will receive a draft for comments and the publication is expected by November 2016.

Following the interest raised on VDR issues at PCF4 and PCF5, the European Commission requested EMSA to examine all aspects of the issue with a view to determining what action could or should be taken, particularly by comparison with aviation. Submission of the report is expected before end 2016.

EMSA delivered a presentation on the revised Methodology for visits to MS and introduced the new elements that will be applied for the future cycle of visits.

Chairmanship elections

Mr Steve Clinch (UK/MAIB) was re-elected as Chairperson and Mr Ron Damstra (NL/DSB) was elected as Deputy-Chairperson for a 2 year term.

Conclusion

The Chairperson concluded by summarising the main decisions taken and closed the meeting. The PCF7 meeting is expected to take place in early June 2017.