



European Maritime Safety Agency

Meeting Report

SSN Interface Sub-group 2nd meeting

Held in Lisbon on
13 August 2013

Background

As a follow-up to the decision of the 19th SSN Workshop (22-23 May 2013) to setup a sub-group to draft the detailed technical requirements for the next developments in SSN (version 3), 10 Member States have volunteered to participate. A first meeting was held on 25 June. This was the second meeting of the sub-group.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Lazaros Aichmalotidis, Head of Unit C2 Vessel Traffic and Reporting Services.

The meeting was attended by delegations from: **Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Romania and The Netherlands**. The list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

I. Introductory remarks and meeting objectives

Mr Aichmalotidis welcomed the participants and recalled the overall objective of the sub-group which is to draft the detailed technical requirements that derive from Directive 2010/65/EU and which can be summarised as the exchange of information of the Waste and Security notifications, and additional information on dangerous and polluting goods. He also stressed that there are only few opportunities to make changes to the SSN interface, and the sub-group should take this opportunity to define as better as possible the SSN version 3.

The time plan is short and the sub-group needs to finalise the technical specifications to be validated by the SSN workshop in November 2013 in order to give time for the developments during 2014 and enter into operation in June 2015.

The discussions led by the Commission on cargo related information are still on-going. For now, there is no requirement for the exchange of such information through SSN.

The draft agenda was introduced and approved.

II. Approval of the 1st meeting report

The draft report of the 1st meeting was reviewed in detail.

The Netherlands asked clarification on the feedback received from participant MS regarding the message structure of the PortPlus messages. EMSA informed that the replies received were 4 in favour of structure A and 5 for structure B. Based on the result EMSA developed the draft technical definitions for structure B.

Regarding the requirements for the pre-arrival security notification, **the Netherlands** also questioned the difference between the requirements of Regulation (EC) 725/2004 and the Annex of Directive 2010/65/EU. EMSA suggested to directly send the question to the Commission legal services, as the Security business rules approved by the eMS and by MARSEC made a clear reference to the form presented in the Appendix of Directive 2010/65/EU.

Ireland commented that, in the Functional Specifications under paragraph 3.4 bullet "data providing", the developments should be done by each MS according to their national implementation. The sub-group agreed and EMSA will amend the Functional Specifications. **(Action Point 1)**

III. Work plan

As regards the work plan of the sub-group as included in the terms of reference, EMSA proposed to move the approval of the "MS Commissioning Test Plan" to the SSN workshop 21 (May 2014) as this document will be drafted from the XML reference guide of SSN v3 which would be approved at SSN workshop 20 (November 2013).

In addition, the sub-group also requested to clarify that the XML reference guide will be presented to the eMS group for information only, as this document is under the SSN remit.

The work plan will be changed accordingly. **(Action Point 2)**

IV. Draft technical specifications

The draft XML Reference Guide (draft 0.0) distributed to the participants before the meeting was reviewed. The main comments and conclusions are noted hereunder:

1. Waste and Security information requirements

The sub-group agreed with the proposed structure for the inclusion of the Waste and Security information in the PortPlus message and the details available upon request using the Ship Call request/response messages.

The data elements were also analysed in detail. Several changes were proposed to the XML Reference Guide. They are reflected in the amended XML Reference Guide (draft 0.1) in Annex 3 (highlighted in yellow).

The sub-group agreed to provide feedback and confirm by 22 August if data elements "ISSC type" and "ISSC number" should be kept in the PortPlus message. **(Action Point 3)**

EMSA presented the list of codes to be used for the "waste types". EMSA clarified that the coding was developed from the Waste Business Rules from the eMS group. EMSA will distribute the list after the meeting (Annex 4)

2. Improvements to the Hazmat information

The sub-group agreed with the proposal to include the additional data elements from FAL Form 7 as optional elements. The sub-group drafted an alternative message structure of Hazmat information during the meeting. The new structure is included in the amended XML Reference Guide (draft 0.1) in Annex 3.

The participants agreed to consult their experts at national level and to provide feedback on this new structure by 22 August. **(Action Point 4)**

Several participants questioned the need to keep the "CargoManifest" element in the PortPlus message considering that Hazmat details will be provided in XML format. EMSA clarified that, as there was no change in the existing legal framework concerning this issue, this part of SSN was not amended. Any change regarding the current exchange of the cargo manifest contact details would have to be validated by the SSN group.

The participants agreed to consult their experts at national level regarding the operational need to exchange the cargo manifest contact details and to provide feedback by 22 August. **(Action Point 5)**

3. Request for details

EMSA will assess the technical solution to be implemented by SSN in the cases where detailed information regarding Waste, Security and Hazmat would be provided by different MS **(Action Point 6)**. The sub-group suggested including all the details in a single response message (Pre-arrival, Hazmat, Waste and Security) as this fits better the operational need.

EMSA will further draft the business rules regarding the request/response messages and will include them in the XML Reference Guide. **(Action Point 7)**

As a general, the XML Reference Guide should make the distinction between recommendations and actual business rules applied by SSN.

4. Information on exemptions

The sub-group considered the proposal to include an element "Exemptions" in the PortPlus message which indicates that the ship was exempted from providing the 24h pre-arrival, hazmat, security or waste notification. The sub-group advised that this would be difficult to be implemented in the national SSN systems and proposed to include it as an optional element.

The sub-group requested EMSA to present an alternative proposal where information regarding exemptions provided by MS to the Central SSN System would be provided in the response to queries regarding PortPlus messages. **(Action Point 8)**

5. Traceability of the information provided in the response messages

The sub-group agreed with the proposal to implement traceability of the information provided in the response messages and requested in addition to implement also traceability in the request messages for details sent by Central SSN to the national SSN holding the details.

Indication of the source of the request (From attribute of the MS2SSN_ShipCall_Req message) should be included in the request for details to the MS (SSN2MS_ShipCall_Res message). Indication of the source of the results should be included in the response message (SSN2MS_ShipCall_Res message).

V. Meeting Conclusions / Follow-up Actions

The conclusions and follow up actions are noted in the relevant paragraphs of the minutes.

EMSA thanked all the participants for the very positive meeting. The discussions and proposed changes were very important for the development of the new the new XML Reference Guide of SSN v3.

The following actions were agreed:

- By 14 August: EMSA to send an update of XML Reference Guide with the changes agreed (draft 0.1);
- By 22 August: The sub-group members to consult their technical experts regarding the action points noted in the report and provide feedback to EMSA;
- By 22 August: The sub-group members to provide any additional feedback to EMSA on the Functional Specifications (v1.0) and XML Reference Guide (draft 0.1);
- By 26 August: EMSA to prepare a consolidated XML Reference Guide (draft 0.2) document, including business rules, remaining action points and feedback received from the sub-group members;
- By 2 September: The sub-group members to provide feedback to the consolidated XML Reference Guide document (draft 0.2) distributed on 26 August.

The objective is to distribute the draft XML Reference Guide of SSN v3 to the SSN group on **5th September 2013** (2 months before the SSN workshop 20).

Annexes

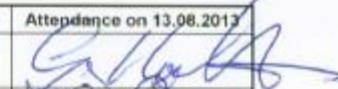

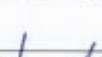
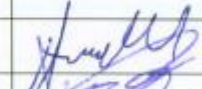
Annex 1 – List of participants

Annex 2 – Meeting Agenda

Annex 3 – XML Reference Guide of SSN v3 – Draft 0.1 (including meeting notes)

Annex 4 – Coding of Waste Types

Annex 1 – Attendance List

Country	Name	First Name	Organisation	E-mail	Attendance on 13.08.2013
Ireland	Houlihan	Greg	Irish Maritime Administration	greghoulihan@dttas.ie	
Italy	Daniele	Puntin	Italian Coast Guard	daniele.puntin@mit.gov.it	
Latvia	Deniss	Bickovs	Latvian Coast Guard Service	deniss.bickovs@mrcc.lv	
Norway	Hauge	Jarle	Norwegian Coastal Administration	jarle.hauge@kystverket.no	
Portugal	Marques	Nelson	IPTM	nelson.marques@imarpor.pt	
Romania	Ghenovici	Ana-Maria	Teamnet International SA	anamaria ghenovici@teamnet.ro	
The Netherlands	Kortekaas	Joram	Rijkswaterstaat Traffic & Water Management	Joram.kortekaas@rws.nl	

EMSA staff

S/N	Name	First Name	E-mail
1	AICHMALOTIDIS	Lazaros	Lazaros.AICHMALOTIDIS@emsa.europa.eu
2	DUCHESNE	Philippe	Philippe.DUCHESNE@emsa.europa.eu
3	LIMA GALVAO	Marta	Marta.LIMA-GALVAO@emsa.europa.eu

Annex 2 – Meeting Agenda

SSN Interface Sub-group 2nd Meeting

DRAFT AGENDA

Lisbon, 13 August 2013 (09:30 – 17:30)

Time	Topic	Speaker
09:00	Registration	
09:30	Welcome – Introductory remarks and meeting objectives	EMSA
09:45	Approval of the 1 st meeting report	EMSA / ALL
10:00	Draft technical specifications – message description: notification	EMSA / ALL
11:15	Coffee break	
11:30	Draft technical specifications – message description: notification	EMSA / ALL
13:00	Lunch break	
14:00	Draft technical specifications – review: request / response	EMSA /ALL
15:30	Coffee break	
15:45	Draft technical specifications – business rules table and definition	EMSA /ALL
16:30	Conclusions / next steps	EMSA
17:30	End of meeting	

Annex 3 – XML Reference Guide of SSN v3 – Draft 0.1 (including meeting notes)

[Annex 3-XML Reference Guide v3.00_draft0.1.xlsx]

Annex 4 – Coding of Waste Types

[Annex 4-Waste type values.xlsx]