

SafeSeaNet Group meeting no. 21
Agenda item IV
8 May 2014

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Lisbon, 8 April 2014

SAFESEANET OPERATIONAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS

Central Ship Database (CSD)

Submitted by EMSA

<i>Summary</i>	This paper reports on the work in progress related to the Central Ship Database.
<i>Action to be taken</i>	As per paragraph 3
<i>Related documents</i>	a. SSN 19/4/5 b. HLSG 9, Agenda point 3.4, Vessel Database (report on the proceedings of the correspondence Group)

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its 7th meeting in July 2012, the SafeSeaNet High Level Steering Group (HLSG) authorised the formation of a correspondence group to examine data storage and access policy proposals for a Central Ship Database (CSD)¹. This database would be hosted at EMSA as a common service for all EMSA and MS applications. 13 Member States (MS) nominated participants for the group.

The correspondence group produced technical specifications for the CSD and subsequently at its 9th meeting in June 2013, the HLSG agreed to launch the pilot project with those MS willing to participate, while keeping it open for more MS to join.

This paper reports on the current status of the project.

2. CURRENT STATUS

With respect to the **Central Ship Database** (CSD) of SSN the following services shall be made available to MS on a voluntary basis:

- a) **Download service:** to download (using secure FTP) the data stored in the CSD on a monthly basis. This service was launched on 15 February 2013;
- b) **Request/response service:** request the content of ship records in the CSD based on ship ID, flag or latest updated records using predefined XML messages.

¹ Following concerns of some MS regarding the use of terms like "Registry" or "reference" when referring to this database, the name that shall be utilised is "Central Ship Database". The term "Central" denotes that the ship database shall be deployed at central SSN.

MS can choose, subject to their decision, either treat the reception of data to initiate the verification of ship details included in their system, or use it to automatically update their own database;

- c) **Ship particulars notification web-service:** Used by the MS to:
 - a. Announce the insertion of a new ship in the national flag registry; or,
 - b. Provide feedback information to the CSD (with updates on ship particulars that have been verified manually by their national authorities (e.g. national flag registries);
- d) **Additional web services** This includes the ship record history retrieval and a mechanism for “pushing” ship particulars (as an alternative to the request/response mechanism); and
- e) **Web interface:** A user web interface will be provided to consult the ship records available in the CSD.

The implementation of points (b) to (e) is currently on going. Tests with pilot project participants can be carried out from July 2014. EMSA expects to disseminate to interested MS the xsd and wsdl files for services (b) to (d) in April 2013.

The CSD reference documents can be downloaded from:

https://extranet.emsa.europa.eu/index.php/document-repository/cat_view/264-safeseanet/267-ssn-workshops-and-meetings/475-rvd-working-group-restricted

3. ACTION REQUIRED

The Member States are invited to:

- take note of this progress report; and
- indicate if they intend to participate in the pilot project.