



Final Meeting Report

7th LRIT NCA Meeting

Lisbon, 24 May, 2013

Meeting Organization

The meeting was attended by delegations from: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and the European Commission. The IMO also attended as a guest speaker.

The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1** and the Final Agenda as **Annex 2**.

Annex 3 is the summary of action items arising out of this meeting.

Note: All presentations for this meeting as well as the 3 papers which had been sent prior to the meeting can be found on the EMSA LRIT Extranet and then logging into the site with your personal usernames and passwords to access the downloadable documents under "Meeting Documents" and "7th LRIT NCA Meeting". The area is accessible with the following link:

<https://extranet.emsa.europa.eu/>

If you are unable to access the website or documents, please send an email to: LRIT@emsa.europa.eu.

Meeting Objectives

The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- Report/Update Member States (MS) on the performance and operations of the EU LRIT Cooperative Data Centre as well as its promotion and use since the last meeting in October.
- Present new features and development work which took place in the past few months on the EU CDC User Web Interface including possible new developments.
- Present proposed Rules of Procedure for the LRIT NCA group and changes received from MS prior to the meeting.
- Have an IMO presentation giving feedback on the outcome of COMSAR 17 and e-navigations discussions and explaining the IDF polling functionality.
- Present status of ship reporting/integration and actions to improve them.
- Present proposed amendments to Conditions of Use.
- Present paper on access to archived data to MS.
- Have a session to give opportunity for Participating Countries of the EU CDC to present case studies on using the service.
- Give feedback on the signing of agreements with other Data Centres.
- Give an update on the IDE operations at EMSA.
- Present the use of LRIT in terms of supporting EU NAVFOR operations (MARSURV) and other research projects such as Blue Fin Tuna Campaign with EFCA.
- Give an update on the development of the integrated maritime data environment (IMDaTe) project.
- Give feedback on a small SAT-AIS study which was conducted to compare LRIT data with SAT-AIS data.

Meeting Programme

Agenda item 1 – Welcome and Opening of meeting

Marin Chintoan-Uta, Head of Unit C.3-Satellite Based Monitoring Services, welcomed the participants. He stated that the objective of this meeting was to give an update to Member States on the performance and use of the EU LRIT DC. He also requested that Member States review their contacts for the NCAs, operational contact points and ship database managers. He also reviewed the EMSA actions from the last meeting indicating that all had been completed.

Agenda item 2 –Status of the EU LRIT CDC – Use, Performance and Promotion and Rules of Procedure

As request by the MS at the 6th LRIT NCA meeting, the proposed Rules of Procedure document had been sent out in a paper prior to the meeting for review. Comments had been received from some MS. Several points were presented to the group and discussed and these mainly included the following comments:

- Add mandate of the group and clarify the text on objectives of the group
- Ensure there is a distinction made between the MS founding the Data Centre and the Overseas Territories or Third Countries.
- Support for discussing IMO papers for COMSAR or MSC during LRIT NCA meetings and agree on common position if feasible
- Allow text on the possibility of voting if needed in addition to decisions by consensus.

It was also mentioned that the Rules of Procedure should be aligned with the updated Conditions of Use and vice versa. EMSA will include the relevant comments and circulate for comment a new version of the Rules of Procedure document to MS. The Rules of Procedure will then be finalised and presented for final approval at the 8th LRIT NCA meeting in November.

The new LRIT Use Case Brochure was presented to the group. 5 copies were distributed to each member of the LRIT NCA group to be able to distribute the brochure internally to promote use of the system. It contains useful case studies which show how the EU LRIT Data Centre can be used during operations. The electronic version will also be sent to MS for internal circulation. It was also mentioned that the previous general LRIT Brochure would be updated very shortly and that there is also an Integrated Maritime Services leaflet which covers many of the EMSA systems including LRIT, SSN, CleanSeaNet, etc.

EMSA continued to request MS to fill in the operational feedback form on the DC homepage such that new case studies can be put on the EMSA website on how the EU LRIT Data Centre can be used in operational activities.

Feedback was given on the past training courses since the last NCA meeting as well as fact that there have been requests for the development of a more advanced training module. This will be developed for future training courses planned for end 2013 and 2014. The next course planned is the regional joint SSN/LRIT training planned for 3-5 December with national training courses also planned in 2014 for Italy, Bulgaria, France and Romania. Requests for further training should be sent to EMSA by email or letter so planning can be prepared.

EMSA presented an overview of the EU CDC performance including figures on the Key Performance Indicators for the last two quarters. Graphs were shown to illustrate how the DC still has very high figures in terms of the quality of service and availability and the fact that it is meeting the IMO performance requirements (which are:

- 15 min (periodic position report) and 30 min (polls) latency response times
- 95% availability over any 24-hour period (IMO 24h)
- 99% availability over any 1 month (IMO 30days)

In general, the requirements were met however explanations were given on the few relevant incidents which had occurred from Oct. to March which had an impact on the QoS and availability of the Data Centre.

Some figures were given on the usage of the system and all of these figures are contained in the quarterly reports which are downloadable on the User Web Interface (UWI) of the EU LRIT Data Centre. There are over 500 users registered in the User Web Interface with still a high number of non-active users (~400). There is a continued need for LRIT NCA's to manage their users and remove/delete all unused accounts especially for staff which have left the administrations to ensure the security of the system.

Agenda item 3 – IMO Presentation

IMO gave an overview of the various discussions which took place at COMSAR 17 meeting which took place on 12-16 March 2012 as well as MSC 90 which took place in January 2013. This included discussions on the review and audit of DCs, access to the web interface of the DDP, shipborne equipment issues, and a proposal for the inclusion of the NoA message information in the LRIT system. It was suggested by IMO that should the Brazilian paper on the inclusion of the NoA message information in the LRIT system be accepted at the next MSC in June that this topic should be discussed at the next LRIT NCA meeting and especially its possible technical implementation.

IMO suggested that it was highly appreciated that the EU LRIT DC gave feedback on malfunctioning shipborne equipment and relevant summary data on ship integration and reporting in the EU LRIT DC. They also suggested that it would be useful if a technical guidance document was available to MS that perhaps some of it could be shared with the rest of the LRIT Community through a paper being submitted at IMO on this matter. EMSA to look into the possibility of parts of Technical Note 8 being integrated into a technical paper to be submitted to COMSAR.

A demonstration was then given on the how the Contracting Governments can “opt-in” to give flag State LRIT information to the security forces in waters of the Gulf of Aden and western Indian Ocean and also allow for polling of ships. This was implemented in the V2.0 of the EU DC which went into production in December 2012. MS were encouraged to go onto the DDP to activate this and a live demonstration was given on how to do this on the DDP. This is a two step process where first MS need to remove the exclusion for the security forces (one by one) and then opt-in for the security forces to be able to receive LRIT information in response to polls. EMSA will continue to monitor the consumption of the polls used by the security forces and contact MS should this amount be very high.

Further information can be found in the presentation itself on the LRIT Extranet.

Agenda item 4 –Case Studies from MS on the Use of EU CDC

A presentation was given by Ireland on their use of the xml interface of the EU DC where they import the data into their SafeSeas Ireland (SSI) system. A demonstration of the integrated system (including LRIT, AIS, Thetis information and a lot of other national information) was given and it was indicated that the LRIT reporting was verified in SSI by Port State Control officers to check whether the equipment was reporting or not. If the equipment was off or malfunctioning then the NCA could be informed to take action

as the ship was not compliant with SOLAS. They would very much like to be able to poll ships directly through their system using the EU LRIT DC XML interface.

Denmark also made some comments on using the LRIT system in Greenland and indicated a formal presentation will be given at the next meeting.

The presentation from Ireland is on the EMSA Extranet under the 7th LRIT NCA meeting. EMSA requested other Participating Countries of the EU CDC to present at the next meeting to show the use of the system and to fill in the operational feedback forms on the EU DC User Web Interface.

Agenda item 5 – Evolution of the EU CDC & Ship DB and ship reporting

A presentation was given on the following issues:

- UWI releases and main new features
- Future changes/maintenance
- Use of the LRIT CDC
- Xml interface status
- Maintenance Contract with CLS/Critical Software to cover 3 systems
- Ship Reporting and actions to improve reporting

Since the last meeting in October, one release of the EU CDC (2.1.0) was put in production in June 2013 and this included a number of evolutions and corrections of anomalies. Another release is planned (2.2.0) for end of 2013. Current developments planned for this year include the integration of the EU DC into the EMSA infrastructure. It is important to note that the EU LRIT DC is out of the EMSA infrastructure and now will be transferred to ensure that similar security measures, firewalls, etc. are taken into account for all EMSA applications. Currently, the EMSA ICT team is not able to ensure this service. Another new development is the simplification and integration of the Invoicing and Billing system into the EU LRIT Data Centre. This will mean a simplified system which is directly linked to the DC in that there is no longer a reliance on a contractor billing software. Other smaller developments are also taking place for the Ship Database and EU DC however these are more minor.

Figures were presented on the ship integration and reporting which have improved since the last meeting (+2%). It was indicated that the Automatic Alert System is in place and that for those MS wishing to use this service need to indicate the contact persons to receive the alerts. Currently the AAS is enabled for more than 900 ships (11%) for 12 users from 7 countries.

Furthermore, it was requested that MS continue to use the Revised Technical Note 8 (v1.2) which gives assistance on ship reporting with regards to using the UWI and following up with shipowners for the terminals and MSS to improve the ship reporting management. However it was also mentioned that MS can delegate their monitoring of the fleet through the UWI to EMSA where various actions will be taken to monitor the reporting. For those MS that wish to do this, an email can be sent to EMSA (LRIT@emsa.europa.eu) to confirm this. There will be some actions that cannot be done by EMSA such as the need for an update in the Ship DB on a terminal or contacting a shipowner however a report is produced on a regular basis for MS to be able to know the status of their fleet's reporting. Currently 7 countries have their ships' reporting managed by EMSA.

A discussion took place on the access to archived LRIT data following the paper submitted by EMSA. The objective was to ask MS whether they would agree on a permanent basis that EMSA passes their archived LRIT data to parties (all EU DC Participating States, EU Institutions or Agencies) requesting this information and EMSA reporting back at the NCA meetings.

Lengthy discussions took place and it was concluded that the current process of emailing all MS to ask for their data to be passed to a specific requestor for a specific case or project would still apply. Each MS can then give their permission to pass their data or not as was done for past cases such as for the Italian request or for the JRC project. Furthermore it was suggested that MS accepted the tacit agreement in that following a one month consultation process that those MS that had not replied (or objected) in writing by email did actually tacitly agree to their LRIT data being passed to the requestor. This was supported by several MS (ES, BE, NE) and therefore agreed as the consensus. EMSA will therefore continue to use this emailing process and use the tacit agreement approach. MS also requested that there be a possibility to indicate to EMSA if they would like the standing order of giving LRIT information to requesting parties on a permanent basis and just be informed occasionally.

Agenda item 6 – IDE Operations and Maintenance

A presentation was given on the IDE service status. The operations have been run successfully since the last LRIT NCA meeting in October. The availability remains high at 99.83% with only very few incidents taking place in the last 6 months. There were two relevant incidents which were reported on and included a power outage and 1 DNS service issue covering an overall downtime of a maximum of 4.5 hours. Regular exercises are conducted on the IDE to ensure continual improvement of the service. A new software release is being developed in order to correct minor bugs, refine the AI and to improve the security of the system.

Agenda item 7 – Conditions of Use and Financial Agreements

A report was given on the financial agreements with other DC's. Agreements have been concluded with 55 DC's which are in production. These agreements include 3 umbrella agreements with Pole Star, Fulcrum and CLS covering 45 DC's and then 11 individual agreements. A new agreement was recently signed with Ukraine due to reorganisation of the Administration.

The agreements contain prices which are specially agreed prices between DCs. Where no agreement has been signed with a DC, the following scheme is used: a maximum being the 25 cents for a position report as recommended by IMO as well as using the 1/2/6 ratio. The agreed prices with other DC's are included on the User Web Interface and can be viewed by all users.

In terms of execution of payments the debt with Nigeria which was reported on at the last LRIT meeting has now been settled by Nigeria through direct payments and offsetting. There is currently only a small dent with PoleStar of around 2200 EUR.

Lastly, EMSA has sent out a paper on a proposed new Conditions of Use which included all the relevant changes that had been approved at the last LRIT NCA meeting as well as the new prices following the new 3 year contract with CLS. Additional comments had also been received by MS and therefore due to numerous changes it was decided to also update other clauses which were now outdated. Many of the changes were minor and the more substantial ones were presented and discussed during the meeting.

The main change being the changes to the financial provisions in Article 9 where it was not clearly stated that EMSA pays for the ship integration costs. Furthermore, a statement was also added to Article 9 to indicate that the prices of the EU ASP and the agreements between EU DC and other DCs form the basis of the price list in Annex 1. Lastly, it was indicated that due to the developments in simplifying the billing system, there was going to be a new price list starting in January of 2014 where a fixed price would be applied for positions reports (0.11 EUR for EU reports / 0.19 EUR for non-EU reports; these prices are subject to adjustments as a consequence of price indexation between EMSA and the ASP). All other messages such as polls, PRC, requests etc. would no longer be charged to MS and be covered by EMSA. This is to simplify the

billing system reducing costs of the maintenance and on-going operations of the system and will enable it also to be clearer and easier for MS when checking invoices.

MS made comments but in general agreed to these changes. They made comments on the fact that the CoU should be aligned with the Rules of Procedure and vice versa. EMSA will prepare a new Conditions of Use document with all the relevant changes highlighted in the document and this will be circulated to MS for comment. The CoU will then be finalised and presented for final approval at the next meeting with the idea that it will then be sent out for signature and apply from the 1st of January.

Agenda item 8 – Update on the Integration Maritime Data Environment (IMDatE)

EMSA explained the status of the IMDatE project gave a status on its development and the fact that already the new IMDATE platform was providing support to EU NAVFOR and MSCHOA for operations off of Somalia and with Frontex for their border control activities. Other support was also being given to EFCA for the fishing campaigns as well as to MAOC-N for their operations off of Cape Verde.

Currently, there is a pilot project with 7 volunteer MSs which are evaluating and testing the IMDATE platform, especially for new functionalities and to collect user requirements and give feedback. Currently, there is an ongoing impact assessment for the revision of the VTMIS Directive which is taking place and EMSA is assisting the Commission for this task. This will ensure that the IMDATE platform is part of this Directive giving it a legal basis and allowing both existing and new user communities to have tailor-made services with the IMDATE platform.

Lastly, a brief overview of a SAT-AIS study was given which compared LRIT and SAT-AIS data. The main objective was to compare quality of data and to see how the two are complementary. The main conclusion was that there was a 14 % improvement of LRIT “non-reporting” ships with the inclusion of SAT-AIS data. It was also seen that there was 99.6% concordance between the SAT-AIS and LRIT positions.

More information on both IMDATE and the SAT-AIS study can be found in the presentation itself which is on the LRIT Extranet as indicated at the beginning of this report.

Any Other Business

The next meeting will take place during the week of the 4 November 2013 and will be in conjunction with the SSN and IMDATE meetings as follows:

- 5-6 November: SSN meeting
- 7 November: LRIT meeting
- 8 November: IMDATE meeting

Annexes

Annex 1 - List of participants

Annex 2 - Final Agenda

Annex 3 - Summary of Action Items

Annex 1 – List of participants

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Annex 2 – Final Agenda

7th Meeting of LRIT NCA's
Lisbon 24 May 2013
Conference Centre "LOYOLA DE PALACIO"
Final Agenda

Chair: Marin Chintoan-Uta, Head of Unit, Satellite Based Monitoring Services

Time	Agenda Item	Speaker
08:45 – 09:15	<i>Registration & coffee</i>	--
09:15 – 09:30	1. Welcome and opening of meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of agenda Actions from 6th LRIT NCA meeting 	Marin Chintoan-Uta Head of Unit
09:30 – 10:15	2. Status of EU LRIT CDC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules of Procedure /Terms of Reference for LRIT NCA Group (Paper) Use of system: LRIT Brochure, Case Studies and Operational forms Training courses Status of System & service operations Performance of system and KPIs Audit Progress 	Stephanie Seddon-Brown Senior Project Officer LRIT Yannick Texier, Senior Project Officer LRIT Sara Peral Lopes, Project Officer LRIT
10:15 – 11:00	3. IMO Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from COMSAR 17 and issues of interest: e-navigation IDF: UWI and polling functionality 	Javier Yasniskouski IMO
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:30 - 12:30	4. Case Studies from MS on the Use of the LRIT System	

Time	Agenda Item	Speaker
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ireland: Use of XML interface Denmark: Use of LRIT System Any other MS volunteering 	
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch Break (not offered by EMSA)</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	5. Evolution of the EU LRIT CDC & Ship DB and ship reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UWI releases & new features New developments Contractual arrangements Status of ship reporting & actions to improve reporting/feedback from AAS Access to archived data (Paper) 	Yannick Texier Senior Project Officer LRIT Vincent Guida Senior Project Officer LRIT
15:00 – 15:15	6. IDE Operations and Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance and Incidents Maintenance and Exercises Audit 	Diego Molero Project Officer LRIT
15:15 – 15:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:45 – 16:30	7. Conditions of Use and Financial Agreements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible Amendments to be made (Paper) Status on financial agreements with other DCs Nigeria: Update 	Olivier Boonen Legal Officer
16:30 – 17:00	8. Update on the Integrated Maritime Data Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status and planning Anti-Piracy Support to EU NAVFOR, MARISS, EFCA, etc. SAT-AIS Study 	Marin Chintoan-Uta Head of Unit
17:00	9. Any other business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> next meeting 	

Annex 3 – Summary of Action items

I. ACTION ITEMS FOR THE MEMBER STATES

Action Number	Agenda item	Action	Target Date/Deadline
1	2	EMSA continued to request MS to fill in the operational feedback form on the DC UWI homepage.	ongoing
2	2	LRIT NCA's to manage their users and remove/delete all unused accounts especially for staff which have left the administrations to ensure the security of the system.	ongoing
3	2	Requests for further training should be sent to EMSA by email or letter and future training sessions can be planned for interested countries.	ongoing
4	3	MS were encouraged to go onto the DDP to activate/"opt-in" to allow the provision of flag State LRIT information to the security forces and also the possibility for polling.	ASAP
5	4	EMSA requested other Participating Countries of the EU CDC to present at the next meeting to show the use of the system.	Next NCA meeting
6	4	EMSA encourage Participating Countries to fill in the Operational Feedback Form on the EU DC UWI to show how the EU DC is being used in every day operations.	ongoing
7	5	MS wishing to activate the AAS service in the UWI should then identify the contact persons who will receive the alert messages.	ongoing
8	5	It was requested that MS continue to use the Revised Technical Note 8 (v1.2) which gives assistance on this issue with regards to using the UWI and following up with shipowners for the terminals and MSS to improve the ship reporting management.	ongoing
9	5	MS to email the LRIT mailbox (LRIT@emsa.europa.eu) if they would like to delegate the task of monitoring their ship reporting to EMSA.	ongoing
10	5	MS to indicate to EMSA if they would like the standing order of giving LRIT information to requesting parties on a permanent basis and just be informed occasionally.	ongoing

Action Number	Agenda item	Action	Target Date/Deadline
11	2 & 7	MS to give approval or comments on both the Rules of Procedure and Conditions of Use documents so that these can be finalised.	Ongoing and prior to next LRIT NCA meeting

II. ACTION ITEMS FOR EMSA

Action Number	Agenda item	Action	Target Date/Deadline
1	2	EMSA will include the relevant comments and circulate for comment a new version of the Rules of Procedure document to MS and again prior to the 8 th LRIT NCA meeting.	1 st version ASAP and final version by 7 October
2	2	EMSA to send electronic version of new LRIT Brochure to MS.	ASAP
3	3	EMSA will continue to monitor the consumption of the polls being made by the security forces and contact MS should this amount be very high.	ongoing
4	3	EMSA to look into the possibility of parts of Technical Note 8 being integrated into a technical information paper to be submitted to COMSAR.	Paper to be sent to COM at least 4 weeks before the IMO deadline (7 weeks if not INF paper)
5	5	EMSA will continue to use the emailing procedure to request MS permission to give their LRIT information to specific requestors and use the tacit agreement approach.	ongoing
6	7	EMSA will prepare a new Conditions of Use document with all the relevant changes highlighted in the document and this will be circulated to MS for comment prior to final sending before the next LRIT NCA mtg.	1 st version ASAP and final version by 7 October