7th Meeting of the LRIT NCA's
Agenda item 6
24 May 2013

Consultation of archived LRIT information stored in the EU Cooperative Data Centre

Submitted by EMSA

Action to be taken	The LRIT NCA's are invited to review this paper prior to the 7th LRIT NCA meeting and indicate during the meeting whether they authorise the access to archived LRIT information to all Participating States (PS) of the EU LRIT CDC.
Related documents	• Conditions of Use of the EU LRIT CDC • MSC 263 (84)

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At the 6th LRIT NCA meeting held on 17 October 2012, EMSA proposed options for MS to consult archived LRIT information available in the EU LRIT Cooperative Data Centre (EU CDC). Following extensive discussions, it was concluded that EMSA should provide a more concrete proposal on how this could be done in the EU CDC.

This paper gives further information and detail on how this consultation of archived LRIT information can be done within the EU CDC.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

EMSA has received requests from various EU MS and/or EU Agencies requesting to consult archived LRIT information available within the EU CDC database. The reasons for their requests are diverse: studies, police/judicial investigations, pilot projects, testing purposes, etc.

The current procedure is: following such a request for LRIT archived information, EMSA contacts all EU DC Participating States to request their authorisation to give the relevant data to the requesting party.

Once all or many of the EU DC Participating States have replied, EMSA manually extracts the relevant archived LRIT information and provides the result to the requestor. This is obviously a laborious procedure and discourages potential requestors, due to the process taking a long time as the consultation period is a few weeks.

3. CONSULTATION OF ARCHIVED LRIT INFORMATION

The EU CDC database contains over 40 million position reports for the period 2009-2012 which costs roughly 4 M€ which are paid for mainly by the EU Community budget. This data constitutes a huge reserve of information that could be useful to many end users for various purposes.

From a legal aspect, there is no formal statement regulating the access to archived LRIT information.

The SOLAS Regulation V /19.1 does not provide any specific definition nor any rule to access archived LRIT information.

The cost model as described in MSC 89/25 – paragraph 6.40 does not apply to archived LRIT information.

4. PROPOSAL

Participating States (PSs) of the EU CDC should agree to make available their archived LRIT information to all PSs of the EU CDC, European Institutions, and Agencies.

The data should be used by the requestor but not redistributed to other external parties.

The procedure would therefore mean that following a specific request from a PS, EMSA as the LRIT DC system administrator would manually extract and distribute the data to the PS requestor without any further consultation of the Participating States in the EU CDC. This approach will not have any technical impact on the EU CDC and will speed up the response time as EMSA can act immediately.

This solution could be adopted for the first 12 months, in order to evaluate the extent of using archived data. EMSA will then report to the NCAs on the activity observed during such period and report on all requests for data that have been made at the LRIT NCA meetings.

5. ACTION REQUIRED

All EU LRIT CDC Participating States are invited to take note of the proposed approach for consulting archived LRIT data within the EU CDC and give their comments at the 7th LRIT NCA meeting.