

6th Meeting of the Consultative Network on Technical Assistance

Lisbon, 29th June 2011

Conclusions

- i. The 6th meeting of the Consultative Network on Technical Assistance (CNTA) was well attended . Representatives from 21 Member States were present, including some new focal points. It emerged during the discussions there is a renewed general support for EMSA's training and cooperation activities in the field of maritime safety, security and prevention of pollution by ships. Other delegations having sent earlier notifications for not attending the meeting supported in general EMSA proposals.
- ii. The MS representatives were informed about the activities performed in 2010 and in the first half of 2011 in favour of EU MS, of the candidate/potential candidate (IPA) countries, in support of the EU Commission in the implementation of the SAFEMED II Project and on the number of officials from the maritime administrations trained on EU maritime legislation.
- iii. The important role of the national focal points in ensuring the correct functioning of EMSA training activities was stressed and acknowledged by all. The participants discussed possible ways to enhance the control of focal points over the registration process and to coordinate the participation of national representatives to EMSA training activities. EMSA will explore the technical solutions available for to notify focal points of the relevant registrations to training and co-operation events. It was also pointed out that the existence and role of the CNTA focal points should be clarified to all relevant administrations and departments within each Member State.
- iv. The MS representatives were also urged to keep constantly updated the "Overview of the 29 EU maritime administration" developed and implemented on 2010 which, based on the thousands hits per month, seems to be a very appreciated tool by maritime administrations and others involved in maritime safety .
- v. Following a brief presentation of EMSA's and Member State's proposals, and some additional proposals made on the spot, the CNTA focal points compiled the following list of trainings, which forms the basis for a further selection to be done via e-mail at a later stage:
 1. Training on ISM Code – (auditing techniques)
 2. Training on ISM Code – (train-the-trainer)

3. Training on ISPS Code
4. Training on EU maritime legislation
5. Training on education and certification of seafarers
6. Training on illegal discharges from vessels and MARPOL investigations
7. Best practices on PSC and Directive 99/35/EC
8. Training on the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC 2006)
9. Training on the Marine Equipment Directive
10. Training on Directive 2002/59 (SSN operators)
11. Training on EU maritime legislation (in depth version)
12. Training on EU Directive 2009/21 (Quality and monitoring ROs)
13. Liability & Compensation
14. Training on environmental issues / AFS

By 15 September each MS will forward to EMSA the above list indicating its own priorities. EMSA will then consolidate it into the Agency's 2012 plan for technical assistance and circulate it to Member States by 15 October 2011.

- vi. The MS representatives were also provided with an overview of the recent developments of EMSA training activities, including a new more user friendly web page and new training sessions prepared as a consequence of the "third maritime package" and recent international developments.
- vii. An on-line pre-questionnaire as a mean to pre-assess the general knowledge of the participants and pose questions prior the trainings was presented and supported by the participants. The pre-training questionnaire has been successfully tested in preparation of the training session on the "Maritime Labour Convention, 2006" scheduled for the 5-7 July 2011. The participants also supported the idea of collecting and passing to the relevant services of the EU Commission questions on policy issues which could not be answered during the training sessions with the aim of providing the participants with an answer at a later stage. The development of the questionnaire was requested by some MSs during the 5th CNTA meeting held in 2010.
- viii. The MS representatives appreciated new tools/ideas which have been developed for making training actions more effective and the EMSA's training even more transparent than the past.
- ix. Likewise, the progressive move from traditional trainings towards best practice sessions and the increasing involvement of external experts from Member States and international bodies in the delivery of EMSA's training sessions was welcomed and considered a useful tool to exchange experiences between Member States and to learn from each other.
- x. The MS representatives renewed their support for regional trainings as a complement to, but not a substitute for, centralised trainings and invited EMSA to increase the number of the yearly regional

sessions [to 2 per year] within the limits of available resources and budgetary constraints.

- xi. EMSA's proposal of developing a "training catalogue" and its publication on the EMSA website was considered very helpful for maritime administrations to identify the training sessions that best fit the needs of the maritime administrations. Information on the content and objectives of all trainings offered by EMSA was considered useful for planning training activities and for identifying suitable participants.
- xii. The MS representatives did not consider that it would be useful to have a CNTA meeting organised every second year and agreed to continue having the meeting organised on a yearly basis, but suggested moving the sessions at the beginning of the year in order to better plan their training activities.
- xiii. The role of EMSA training as a key activity for maritime administrations was recognised and there is a general consensus at CNTA level that EMSA's budget for training should reflect this consideration.