EMSA

European Maritime Safety Agency

N° 16 **March 2006** **NEWSLETTER**

EMSA CALLS FOR ADDITIONAL "RESERVE FOR DISASTERS"

On 30th March, EMSA launched a second call for tenders to provide additional oil pollution response capabilities in EU waters. This follows the setting up of an initial network during 2005, based on response vessels in the Baltic, Mediterranean and Atlantic regions. With this call, EMSA is looking to extend its Atlantic and Mediterranean capacities from 2007. Taking into account the extensive sea areas that must be covered, as well as the need for rapid arrival of EMSA contracted vessels and equipment on-site, the task represents a significant challenge. It is expected, as a result of the response to this call, that some significant gaps will be filled, and that this will enable improved response in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The budget for this second round will be the same as for the first in 2005 (€17.5 million). It is the intention to have further call to tender to cover the Black Sea in 2007. A copy of the call for tender is available on the EMSA website under "Procurement" at: http://www.emsa.eu.int

BOARD MEETING IN MALTA

The last meeting of the EMSA Administrative Board was hosted by the Maltese Maritime Authority on 13th March. The main topic for discussion was the preliminary work programme and budget for 2007. The Board discussed issues relating to the operational activities of the Agency, assessments, marine equipment and other key subjects. On 14th March the board members visited the oil tanker 'Mistra Bay,' which is in dry dock and undergoing pre-fitting works prior to becoming the first EMSA pollution response vessel to cover the Mediterranean region.

STUDY ON CLEANER SHIPS: INVENTORY OF GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

EMSA recently commissioned Hamburg maritime consultancy HPTI to carry out a study on ships producing reduced quantities of ship generated waste. The study will address the present situation and future opportunities to encourage the development of cleaner ships. The overall objective is to obtain an inventory of green technologies (those presently available and prototypes), management systems and existing incentives in order to identify relevant criteria and to propose recommendations to the European Commission. These could be used to establish a basis for incentive schemes aimed at making "green shipping" economically attractive.

FIRST MISSION ON TRAINING IN ASIA

A team of EMSA assessors visited the Philippines from 5-28th of March 2006. The objective of the visit was to evaluate whether the Philippines complies with the education, training and certification standards adopted via the STCW Convention. The team, which was split during different parts of the assessment, visited seven agencies of the maritime administration in Manila and fourteen educational establishments in Manila, Bataan, Zambales, Legazpi, Tacloban, Palompon, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod and Cagayan de Oro. The Philippines is a major provider of seafarers, not only to the EU fleet, but also to global shipping. Filipino seafarers represent around 25% of the maritime labour market.

APRIL 2006: FORERUNNERS LEAVE TO LISBON

Ten staff members will relocate to Lisbon to take up duty by 3rd April. They will prepare the new Agency headquarters for the arrival of the second, and largest, group of colleagues who will begin work on 2nd May. As from that date, EMSA management will be operating from Lisbon. EMSA's offices in Brussels will close on 16th July, when the last staff members, in particular those having children at school in Brussels, will have moved. Please note:
- E-mail addresses remain the same.
- Phone numbers have yet to be allocated.
- The new postal address from 2nd May will be:

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No newsletter in April. — Due to the move to Lisbon, EMSA will not produce a newsletter in April.

If you wish to subscribe to this electronic newsletter, please contact EMSA External Communications: Louis Baumard (louis.baumard@emsa.eu.int) or Andrew Stimpson (andrew.stimpson@emsa.eu.int).