NEWSLETTER No. 200



QUALITY SHIPPING, SAFER SEAS, CLEANER OCEANS

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SEAFARER STATISTICS IN THE EU -STATISTICAL REVIEW OUT NOW

On 16 November, EMSA published its sixth annual review on Seafarer Statistics in the EU, offering a valuable insight into the European labour market in terms of the number of seafarers holding valid certificates and endorsements in 2019, based on data from EMSA's STCW Information System. According to the report, at the start of 2020, there were 336 590 masters and officers available to serve on board EU member states (including the UK, Norway and Iceland). The European countries that had the most certified masters and officers were the UK (30 217), Greece (21 850), Poland (20 829), Norway (18 793) and Croatia (14 962). In addition, the five non-EU countries that had at that time the most masters and officers holding CoCs recognised by EU member states were the Philippines (46 114), the Ukraine (26 057), Russia (17 380), India (10 544) and Turkey (5 548). The data included in the review indicates that since 2014 the maritime labour market in the EU has been able to attract new entrants that have replaced those leaving the seafaring sector. The main beneficiaries of the review - for policy-making purposes - are the EU member states, the European Commission and the European Parliament. Additionally, shipowners and operators may benefit too as they can gain awareness of the full magnitude of manpower available in the EU to crew their vessels. The information may also be useful for maritime education and training institutions in the EU, as it makes it easier to assess market needs for these services. Finally, researchers, seafarers and the organisations that represent them may find valuable data and analysis in the review.



A snapshot view of the number of seafarers holding valid certificates and endorsements in 2019

COAST GUARD GLOBAL SUMMIT – WORKING LEVEL MEETING – PIONEERING SOLUTIONS FOR EMERGING OCEAN CHALLENGES

Faced with emerging ocean challenges such as increased natural disasters from climate change and technological advances such as unmanned autonomous vessels, the world's coast guards are forced to redefine their traditional roles and coordinate more with other stakeholders in the ocean community. This is the context in which the second Coast Guard Global Summit working level meeting took place online on 16-18 November, co-hosted by the Japanese Coast Guard and the Nippon Foundation. In total 98 coast guards from 88 countries and 10 different organisations attended the meeting with EMSA presenting on pioneering solutions in the area of Maritime Domain Awareness. The Nippon Foundation's Executive Director, Mr UNNO Mitsuyuki underlined his ambition for the summit to "serve as a working platform to pioneer solutions to these emerging challenges and enable the world's coast guards to play an even greater role in keeping our oceans safe and sustainable

FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD IN-PERSON MEETING SINCE PANDEMIC BEGAN

The EMSA Administrative Board gathered on 17-18 November in person in Lisbon, with a few colleagues connecting remotely, for the first time in more than a year and a half. The November meeting is a key milestone in the multi-annual programming process. The Board provides its final stamp of approval on the work plan for the coming year, 2022 in this case. At the same meeting, members get a first look at the proposed actions for the following year, in this case 2023. These actions are finetuned over the next twelve months, taking into account a range of factors, from the evolution of the budgetary process at the level of the European Parliament and Council, which will determine the resources available to the Agency in 2023, to specific requests for assistance from member states or the Commission which may be tabled for approval at successive Board meetings. At this Board meeting, a new Deputy Chairman was elected, Wojciech Zdanowic, the Member for Poland and Director of the Maritime Officer in Szczecin, replacing Admiral Nicola Carlone, former Member for Italy. In addition to providing the usual update on the Agency's activities, the Executive Director announced some of the events being planned in 2022 to mark the Agency's 20th anniversary.



The November Administrative Board meeting is a key milestone in the multi-annual programming process

EMSA eLABORATORY AND VIRTUAL REALITY ROOM OPEN DOORS TO EMSA ADMIN BOARD MEMBERS

For the first time since its setting up, the doors of the EMSA eLaboratory and Virtual Reality Room were open to the representatives of the member states, industry and the European Commission attending in person the 62nd meeting of the EMSA Administrative Board. During the visit, the participants had a live demonstration of the options offered by the eLaboratory for immersive and interactive training and immersed themselves in the Virtual Reality Environment for Ship Inspection (VRESI) by experiencing a simulated but quite realistic visit on board a ship. This toolbox based on state-ofart technology supports the daily work of the EMSA Academy, a flagship project for the Agency designed to deliver modern, efficient, interactive and effective capacity building services.

CISE NETWORK STARTS TO TAKE SHAPE WITH ROLL-OUT OF NEW NODE

Following its successful development, the implementation of the new Node v.2.0 in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) network kicked off. The new version of the **CISE** Node will enable the pre-operational exchange of information among the connected maritime authorities. It also comes with improvements in the architecture and technology used, boosting the network's stability and performance. France and Spain are the first countries to have completed the roll-out of the Node in their systems, and more installations in other member states are planned in the following months. In parallel, the Cooperation Agreement which sets out the conditions of use of the data shared in the network entered into force and is successively signed by the first stakeholders. The two elements together - the new version of the Node and the Cooperation Agreement – form the backbone of the future operational phase of CISE.

for future generations." The next edition is expected to take place in Tokyo in 2022.



Earth Observation is one of the key components of EMSA's maritime awareness toolbox

NEWLY CONTRACTED OIL SPILL RECOVERY VESSEL ENTERS INTO STAND-BY SERVICE

M/t SB Borea (IMO 9362839) was successfully accepted into stand-by service on 12 November and is now part of the EMSA Network of Stand-by Oil Spill Recovery Vessels. This is the result of an accurate preparation phase to accommodate on board a full set of state-of-the art equipment for pollution response. M/T SB Borea, owned and managed by Sarda Bunkers S.p.a., is based in Napoli and its primary operational area is the Central Mediterranean Sea. SB Borea has an onboard storage heated capacity of 3,558 m³ for recovered oil. The ship is equipped with two main arrangements for mechanical recovery that comprises sweeping arms and offshore booms with high-capacity skimmer system. The recovery operations are supported by radar-based oil slick detection systems.





The Naples-based SB Borea reinforces EMSA's pollution response services for the Central Mediterranean Sea

EMCIP MARINE CASUALTY PLATFORM USER GROUP MEETS ONLINE

EMSA held the 13th EMCIP User Group on 10 November in a virtual meeting which gathered 20 experts from EU and EEA member states. On the agenda were several topics related to the enhancement of the European Marine Casualty Information Platform (EMCIP), training on the system and data quality. The delegates discussed the strength of and opportunities presented with the current system implementation, highlighting priorities for future development and providing input on the logic and ergonomics of the new functionalities. The group discussed the enhancement of the EMCIP taxonomy to facilitate data reporting and analysis processes. EMSA recalled the training initiatives delivered in 2021 and presented the host of online resources that are available for EMCIP users, including video tutorials, manuals, guidelines, use case scenarios and a full training environment emulating the functionalities of the real system. The group agreed on the time plan governing the implementation of systematic checks of reported occurrences as well as other important initiatives to enhance data quality in the system.



CISE facilitates rapid and secure access to additional added-value and critical information for authorities dealing with a whole host of different maritime surveillance activities

FACILITATION OF SHIP-TO-SHORE REPORTING: PILOT PROJECT DEMONSTRATION HELD IN COPENHAGEN

The 8th meeting of the 'Facilitation of ship-to-shore reporting' pilot project executed using the European Maritime and Fisheries Funds took place on 2 December, with some guests gathering in Copenhagen, and others joining online. The meeting was hosted by the Danish Navy Command and was organised to demonstrate the results of the pilot project's operational tests and to receive feedback from the authorities and ships participating in tests taking place in the Ship Reporting Systems (SRS) in the Sund (SOUNDREP system) and in the Gulf of Finland (GOFREP system). These tests were focused on submitting reports to coastal stations by electronic means using the Integrated Reports Distribution (IRD) service developed within the project. The IRD allows ships to re-use information available in the SafeSeaNet Ecosystem and the authorities receiving the report to interact with the reporting ships by submitting response messages which can be either used to accept a report or to request additional information.



Delegates from across the EU took part in this hybrid format meeting on ship-to-shore reporting

EQUASIS EDITORIAL BOARD GATHERS AT THEIR 38TH MEETING

The Equasis Editorial Board meeting, organised by EMSA, was held via video conference on 16 November. Among other issues, the board was updated on the latest developments on double reporting and future actions were discussed to reduce or automate certain types of interventions in the Equasis system. The Editorial Board members recognised the stage of maturity that Equasis has reached and, as such, the need to ensure uniformity in the provision of data to Equasis and to safeguard the best control practices for quality management by promoting the existence of Agreements and Protocols for Sharing Data with



Enhancing the quality of data in the EMCIP system is a key priority for EMSA

EU SATELLITE-AIS COLLABORATIVE FORUM MEETING

The 9th EU Satellite-AIS Collaborative Forum was held virtually by EMSA on 17 November. This forum is open to any EU member state and/or public national administration with a programme or interest in the development of a satellite AIS capacity at national level. The forum discussed technical matters related to existing satellite-based AIS operational services including national plans for the deployment of new satellites with AIS and VDES payloads, future technological developments, potential cooperation in using space and ground segment infrastructure, and the sharing of national satellite AIS data with EMSA users.



Satellite-AIS-based map of global ship traffic

all Data Providers.

ANNUAL DIPLOMATIC BAZAAR PROCEEDS GO THIS YEAR TO ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN EXTREME NEED

As is now tradition, EMSA took part in the annual Diplomatic Bazaar held on 26-27 November at the Centro de Congressos in Lisbon. This event, organised under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Portugal, with the support and cooperation of the embassies and missions represented in Lisbon. Each year, a different group of charities is chosen to benefit from the funds raised and this year, all proceeds will go to institutions and organisations that support people in extreme need. For the embassies, participation is also a way of presenting their countries and so they sell goods made or donated by companies and individuals from their respective nations. This year EMSA followed in the same tradition as previous years selling items made by talented staff members and their families. This was a great chance to demonstrate that we are a real part of the community and, of course, an excellent opportunity for our partners, spouses and families to join in doing something that was fun, but at the same time, contributed to a very good cause.



EMSA staff at the Diplomatic Bazaar where the proceeds this year will go to charities supporting people in extreme need

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VACANCIES: Project Officer for Visits and Inspections (SNE) (27/1/2022); Technical Support Officer (SNE) (27/1/2022); Project Officer for Maritime Security (SNE) (27/1/2022); Maritime Support Services Duty Officerr (SNE) (27/1/2022). See website for more.

PROCUREMENT: Provision of Language Training Services (5/1/2022); T-AIS data service in specific regions (13/12/2021). See website for more.