

61st Meeting of the Administrative Board – 23 June 2021 (video conference)**SUMMARY OF DECISIONS****1. Welcome from the Chairman and adoption of the draft agenda**

In view of the virtual nature of the meeting a roll call was conducted to establish and confirm the presence of the quorum of 2/3 of the voting Members.

New Board Members/alternates were welcomed, as listed below.

The Agenda was adopted. No conflicts of interest were declared.

MS	New Board Member	New Alternate Board Member
European Commission	Ms Anne Montagnon, Director SRD MOVE/EVER (previously alternate)	Ms Cristina Cuadra Garcia, Head of Unit SRD D.3 Budget and Financial Management (replacing Anne Montagnon)
Germany		Retirement of Mr Jan Reche, no replacement yet

Proxies/absences

Austria	No representation, no proxy
Czech Republic	No representation, no proxy
Slovenia	No representation, no proxy

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Administrative Board **approved** the draft minutes and decisions of the last meeting, which took place on 17 March 2021 by video conference.

3. Update on Agency's activities

The Administrative Board **took note** of the information provided by the Agency on:

- (a) Impact of the COVID-19 outbreak;
- (b) Relevant tenders and developments in the field of Anti-Pollution Measures;
- (c) European cooperation on coast guard functions - 2021 Budget execution.

The Administrative Board also took note of the risk that the vessel tender Lot for the Atlantic North may be unsuccessful. The potential impact on budget execution would be mitigated by using the planned budget for such Lot to purchase near shore equipment to reinforce and diversify all equipment stockpiles, in line with the needs identified during the brainstorming on the future of APM and using the relevant acquisition channel that will already be in place after the summer. Coverage for the North Atlantic would need to be re-examined and re-designed in the context of the planned tenders for 2022 and 2023.

The Agency agreed to present at the next Administrative Board meeting an overview of the experience with the now firmly established and increasingly popular RPAS services.

4. Draft Administrative Arrangements

The Administrative Board **considered** and did not object to the draft Cooperation Agreement EUNAVFOR-Med.

The Administrative Board also **took note** of the future Copernicus draft Contribution Agreement with the European Commission (DG-DEFIS) to be considered by the Board by written procedure once the relevant documentation is available.

5. EMSA Capacity Building activities

The Administrative Board **took note** of the update on the services planned by the EMSA Academy in 2021; **considered** the proposed topics for learning actions on EU/International maritime legislation and operational maritime applications for 2022; and was invited to **provide input in writing by 30 September 2021** on further specific needs / requests for any ad hoc trainings on EU/International maritime legislation, trainings on operational maritime applications or online “part-time” courses for 2022.

The Administrative Board also **approved** the MAKCs Irish Extension as a permanent solution for Ireland and **agreed** on the proposed way forward: interested Member States should inform EMSA, in writing and by 31 July 2021 at the latest, of the potential interest in using MaKCs services for their national training system.

6. Status of the EMSA Draft Single Programming Document 2022-2024

The Administrative Board **took note** of the information provided by the Agency on the latest operational and budgetary developments with potential impact on the Draft Single Programming Document 2022-2024 and the corresponding Draft Budget and Establishment Plan for 2022.

The Administrative Board was invited to provide any further comments in writing by 7 July 2021.

No requests for assistance, as referred to in article 10(2)(c) of the EMSA Founding Regulation, were tabled for examination.

The Administrative Board also took note of the proposed way forward regarding the European Maritime Safety Report.

7. (Following the revision of the draft agenda in the 2nd set of documents, agenda item 7 was deleted while the original numbering was kept)

8. EMSA inspections and visits

The Administrative Board **took note** of the update provided by the Commission on the follow-up to EMSA’s inspections and visits.

9. Decision of the Administrative Board amending the Decision of 20 November 2009 laying down rules on the Secondment to EMSA of National Experts and National Experts in Professional Training

The Administrative Board **adopted** the Decision of the Administrative Board amending the Decision of 20 November 2009 laying down rules on the Secondment to EMSA of National Experts and National Experts in Professional Training.

10. Adoption of the list of “A” items

The Administrative Board **took note and approved** as appropriate the following “A” items:

- (a) EMSA Financial Statement for 2020 – provided a positive opinion and approved** the EMSA 2020 Final accounts.
- (d) Monitoring of findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and EMSA follow up (ECA, IAS) – took note** of the information provided on findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and the EMSA follow-up.
- (c) 2021 Appropriations cashed – took note.**

11. Any Other Business - None tabled.

Dates of next EMSA’s Administrative Board Meeting (with the possibility for the Board to travel to Lisbon)

Administrative and Finance Committee: **Tuesday 16 November 2021 (afternoon)**

Administrative Board: **Wednesday 17 November afternoon and Thursday 18 November full day 2021**

61st Meeting of the Administrative Board – 23 June 2021 (video conference)

DETAILED MINUTES

1. Welcome from the Chairman and adoption of the draft agenda

In view of the virtual nature of the meeting a roll call was conducted to establish the quorum of 2/3 of the voting Members.

New Members were welcomed, as listed below.

The representative of the EMSA Staff Committee was also welcomed as an observer on the invitation of the Chairman.

The Agenda was adopted with, at the request of the Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee, a swap between agenda item 4 and 10.

Agenda item 7 had been cancelled following the adoption by written procedure 3/2021 of the Decision confirming the adoption and assessment of the EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2020.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Nominations:

European Commission:

Alternate Board member: Ms Cristina Cuadra Garcia, Head of Unit SRD D.3 - Budget and Financial Management.

Board member: Ms Anne Montagnon, Director SRD MOVE/ENER (previously alternate).

Germany: Retirement of Mr Jan Reche, no replacement yet.

Proxies:

Austria, Czech Republic and Slovenia did not attend the meeting and had not provided proxies to any other Member State.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

*The Administrative Board **approved** the decisions of the last meeting, which took place via video conference on 17 March.*

No comments were received.

3. Update on the implementation of the Agency activities in 2021

*(a) The Administrative Board **took note** of the information provided by the Agency on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak*

Andrea Tassoni, Head of the Executive Office, reported to the Board on the current impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Work programme 2021.

Most activities were being delivered virtually in the fields of capacity building, technical assistance and cooperation, or according to plan in the case of the operational pollution response and surveillance services, including the whole data processing and exchange apparatus behind them. In the area of RPAS, very positive deployments took place on which detailed information would be provided under agenda item 3c.

Specific services were being developed/updated in the context of the pandemic such as the monthly Report on the impact of COVID-19 on shipping, published on the Agency's website, the updated guidance for cruise ship operations produced jointly with the ECDC, as well as the new report on the impact of COVID-19 on the maritime sector in the EU, published in early June.

The hardest impact of the pandemic was in the area of Visits and Inspections with remote visits and inspections being deployed as intensively as possible. Nevertheless, fieldwork remained essential in this area and follow-up visits were planned to take place as soon as possible. Multi-annual planning for all cycles was being revised, including fieldwork to complete the remote visits and inspections performed in 2020 and 2021, against the two considered scenarios: resumption of travel by 1 September or 1 January 2022.

Andrea Tassoni further informed the Board on the expected level of implementation of the Agency's Work Programme for 2021, assuming the resumption of normal activities on 1 September. Taking into account virtual delivery of actions where possible and rescheduling of actions that require travel and physical presence, the Agency expected to be able to complete about 98% of planned actions by the end of the year. While it was hoped that the above scenario would pan out, given the current evolution of the pandemic and the rate of vaccination in Europe, the Agency was actively developing a plan B in case of resumption of normal activities only on 1 January 2022, a scenario that would imply a slightly lower level of implementation of the work programme with a series of visits and inspections being postponed to 2022.

From a budgetary perspective, despite the significant impact of travel restrictions on the initial budget planned for in-person training, workshops, visits and inspections, the forecast for budget execution was promising and the Agency expected to be able to use its allocations.

*(b) The Administrative Board **took note** of the information provided by the Agency on the relevant tenders and developments in the fields of Anti-Pollution Measures*

Manuela Tomassini outlined the projection of activities in this field at the end of 2021, subject to positive outcome of ongoing procurements. She further informed the Board that the APM envelope was expected to be implemented in full, subject to the positive outcome of the ongoing procurement for the 2 Lots for the vessels. Should the lot for Atlantic North be unsuccessful, the new Framework Contract for Near Shore Equipment would be activated and budget currently reserved for such Lot would be used to acquire equipment for the different stockpiles. The RPAS services for emissions monitoring and on board OPR vessels had been successfully deployed and would require some additional funding from other EMSA budget lines.

The Commission representative from DG ENV, Veronica Manfredi, took the opportunity to stress the importance of Anti-Pollution Measures. She congratulated the Agency on the cooperation on the Zero Pollution Action plan, on the international cooperation in the framework of the upcoming HELCOM review of the state of the Baltic Sea and acknowledged synergies created with other EU Agencies, such as the EEA.

In relation to RPAS activities, the Chairman of the Board (Andreas Nordseth) intervened to stress the importance of the experience gained and knowledge or recommendations to share with IMO and other instances. The Agency confirmed an elaborated presentation would be prepared to be shared with the Administrative Board at the next meeting.

The Administrative Board also took note of the information provided by Mr Ilkka Salmi, Director, DG ECHO, on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism that entered into force on 26 May allowing for quicker response, better risk management and strengthened funding for provision of financial support in maritime pollution incidents, urging Member States to activate this important instrument when needed.

He further recalled the Administrative Board about the EU MODEX initiative carrying out exercises, operating now also in the maritime sector aiming at the interoperability between onshore and offshore pollution response capacities, currently under consultation with Member States and the Agency.

Finally, Mr Salmi informed the Board of the excellent bilateral meeting with the Executive Director dedicated to updating working arrangements, a key element to enhance EMSA maritime support and ECHO emergency response.

(c) The Administrative Board took note of the information provided by the Agency on the European cooperation on coast guard functions - 2021 Budget execution.

With regard to the Information Sharing in 2021, Peter Kirov, Head of Department 3, reported in detail on substantial investments made towards the use of cloud technologies for the Integrated Maritime Services: Long Term Storage (HP-IMS) of vessels movements, enhancing Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) capabilities (HP-IMS); Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) solutions in Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) and enhancing ICT Security for information sharing.

In the domain of RPAS, Leendert Bal, Head of Department 2, reported a very active first semester of 2021: the Agency continued delivering the 4 operations already reported in March: a light RPAS on-board EFCA vessel Lundy Sentinel, an operation in south of France for the Navy and Customs, a light RPAS on board a Romanian patrol vessel as well as a larger Vertical Take Off and Landing (VTOL) operating in the Black Sea from Romania.

In addition, since March, Multipurpose Operations in the Baltic Sea had started from Estonia and Finland, with live data access provided also to Sweden and Latvia. Denmark and Sweden have shown interest for the preparation of a service on the Western Baltic in 2022. A two-week test of light RPAS on board a Spanish vessel for Sasemar confirmed the high level of flexibility of the system even if the range is limited. More multipurpose deployments were in the pipeline and were subsequently confirmed, in Italy and two in Spain (one multipurpose and one for emission monitoring).

Mr Bal further updated the Board on ongoing procurement for a new set of RPAS services as well as for a new upgraded version of the RPAS DATA CENTRE (called SurvSeaNet) that was being developed by the Agency for the provision of improved data analysis and sharing capabilities and enhanced mission planning and team collaboration.

In the area of Capacity Building under the Coast Guard budget, Manuela Tomassini, Head of Department 1, provided an update on the enriched portfolio of part time on-line courses with new courses - on EU Institutions and EU Maritime Legislation; the new workstream just kicked off on SAR activities; the Maritime Knowledge Centre (MaKCs 2020) now available in a new form and with improved functionalities; the Virtual Reality Environment for Ship Inspection (VRESI), further enhanced with additional scenarios such as 360 degrees video / images. She also detailed the Manual and Handbook developed for the EMSA Academy and the first Common Core Curriculum (CCC) under development (Sulphur Inspectors) to be finalised by the end of 2021, the second one (Flag State Inspectors) to be ready by mid-2022 and the third one on PSCOs by the end of 2022/early 2023; a mobile application for RuleCheck, support to the MSs for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme, and an e-Portal for experts and speakers.

Due to connection issues experienced by the Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee, it was agreed that the Head of the Executive Office Andrea Tassoni would report to the Board on the discussions held at the Committee, which would then be confirmed by its longest standing member, Mr Achim Wehrmann.

In terms of budget implementation in the Coastguard cooperation area, Andrea Tassoni informed the Board that the budget was expected to be very close to fully implemented by year end, both in commitment and payment appropriations.

Mr Achim Wehrmann confirmed that the information on the 2021 budget execution in the field of the European cooperation on coast guard functions had been provided and discussed, and positively received by the Committee. **The Committee could provide a positive opinion to the Administrative Board.**

10. Adoption of the list of “A” items

The Administrative Board approved or took note, as appropriate, the following “A” items, examined in detail by the Administrative and Finance Committee, on the basis of the recommendation by the Chairman of the Committee.

Due to persisting connection issues experienced by the Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee, Andrea Tassoni reported on behalf of the Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee, that the necessary quorum for the meeting had been in place with the participation in the meeting of the representatives from Belgium, Germany, Poland and Spain and the Commission. In addition, the Chairman welcomed the newly appointed alternate member for the Commission, Ms Cristina Cuadra Garcia.

Relevant EMSA management were also present. The Committee had reviewed all the “A” points and could recommend that the Administrative Board approve or take note of them, as appropriate, “en bloc”.

(a) EMSA Financial Statement for 2020 – *approved the EMSA 2020 Accounts subject to certification without reserve by the European Court of Auditors. Formal Approval by the Court of Auditors certifying that the 2020 Accounts are regular, conform and legal should arrive early autumn.*

The EMSA Financial Statement for 2020 was presented by the EMSA Accounting Officer. The main elements were recalled and represented no changes compared to the Provisional EMSA Financial Statement 2020 presented at the previous meeting in March.

The preliminary observations by the Court of Auditors were received on 31 May and provided “a positive opinion on the reliability of the accounts as well as on the legality and regularity of revenue and payments underlying the accounts in all material respects”.

(b) Monitoring of findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and EMSA follow up (ECA, IAS) – *took note of the information provided on findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and the EMSA follow-up.*

The usual summary table outlining the recommendations/findings, their current status and the EMSA actions planned or undertaken was presented by the EMSA Internal Control Coordinator. Out of 9 recommendations issued, 8 were now ‘closed’ and 1 was ‘ready for review’.

As regards the item concerning the late payments already reported in the Court’s report for the Accounts 2019, it seemed that the Court would maintain this finding again in its report for the Accounts 2020 due to the fact that, despite the positive trend confirmed in 2020 (11% of late payments compared to 18% in 2019) the total figure of late payments was still considered relatively high. The Internal Control Coordinator further informed the Committee that late payments for 2021 was 1,24% or 8 late payments out of a total of 625), which confirmed the positive trend of 2020.

In relation to the preliminary observations for the EMSA accounts 2020 the Court gave a positive opinion as regards the Financial statement for 2020 and the underlying transactions.

The Court also withheld 3 draft observations which did not call its opinion into question.

In support of the conclusions of the Administrative and Finance Committee, the Commission (Anne Montagnon) conveyed to the Board the thorough discussions held at the Committee on issues of late

payments and the delegation of powers when signing financial documents and contracts for which a more precise and detailed framework was necessary.

She also congratulated the Agency for the new contract and bank account now used by EMSA allowing the Agency to not pay negative interests which was very positive in the context of public funds.

(c) 2021 Appropriations cashed – *took note of the appropriations cashed in the current year.*

The Committee was informed by the Head of the Executive Office of cash payments of earmarked revenues, which until receipt are recorded as “p.m.” in the budget, amounting to a total of € 2,238,081.78 received since March, consisting of a final payment for THETIS-MRV, pre-financing for CISE, Equasis contributions (Canada, the Republic of Korea, Norway and the United States of America), recovery of charges from EMCDDA for the shared Relogio building, liquidated damages from EDISOFT for EODC Orchestra project and the recovery of pre-financing paid to the hotel for the Annual European Coast Guard Event 2020 which had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

Once cashed, such revenues are automatically loaded into the Agency’s budget. The Agency duly informs the Administrative Board of such amounts, which would be taken into account at the end of the calendar year in the usual final budget amendment submitted for adoption by the Administrative Board.

As agreed previously, Mr Achim Wehrmann, as longest standing member of the Administrative and Finance Committee, confirmed the report made on ‘A’ points by the Head of the Executive Office.

5. EMSA Capacity Building activities

*The Administrative Board **took note** of the update on the services by the EMSA Academy in 2021; **considered** the proposed topics for learning actions on EU/International maritime legislation and operational maritime applications for 2022; and was invited to **provide input in writing by 30 September 2021** on further specific needs / requests for any ad hoc trainings on EU/International maritime legislation, trainings on operational maritime applications or online “part-time” courses for 2022.*

Manuela Tomassini informed the Board that all planned capacity building activities for 2021 were on track, with shifting of delivery remotely. The wide range of learning experiences offered by the Agency were being delivered via different platforms and the planned output in this area had not suffered from the COVID pandemic.

The highlights of the main activities have been provided in the previously presented agenda item on the Coast Guard budget, the attention of the Board was now drawn to the ongoing work on DONA with a focus on the “Country Profile” and the “Reporting Gate”, with the first deliverables expected by the end of October 2021. DONA would be available to Member States in Spring 2022, first in support of reporting obligations foreseen by the Sulphur, the BULK and the Ship Recycling Directives.

As concerns 2022, the plan presented in the relevant note covered trainings on specific topics, trainings on operational applications, and planned part time courses, in addition to which any suggestions and feedback from Member States in order to meet their needs would be welcome, as was the custom, the EMSA Academy being at their service.

The Agency reassured Cyprus that expected developments in the legislative framework would be taken into account and integrated as far as possible in order to address learning needs that would materialise in 2022. In response to the enquiry of Poland, Member States were encouraged to approach the Paris MoU to express training needs specific to Port State control.

The Administrative Board approved the MaKCs Irish Extension as a permanent solution for Ireland and agreed on the proposed way forward: interested Member States should inform EMSA, in writing and by 31 July 2021 at the latest, of the potential interest in using MaKCs services for their national training system.

Manuela Tomassini recalled the Board of the proposal by Ireland to use the EMSA eLearning platform MaKCs, now based on the Moodle platform, to manage also trainings of staff at national level. The pilot project with Ireland was launched with the agreement that the Agency would report back to the Board on the outcome of the pilot and agree on the possible next steps. The project was implemented under the budget already allocated for MaKCs' maintenance and operation and was run with the human resources that support the tool. The Agency also trained two Irish staff members. The pilot project demonstrated the added value of the extension of MaKCs as platform to be used in support of national needs.

Ms Deirdre O'Keeffe, as representative of Ireland, confirmed the benefits of the pilot project for the Irish authorities. The experience gained during the pilot supported further development of comprehensive professional development programs particularly relevant to III Code compliance and implementation of EU directives (e.g. Port State Control National Training). Finally, it emphasized the potential to develop courses covering technical subjects as well as other areas such as Health and Safety, in a very flexible and effective manner. She hoped the Administrative Board would agree to this extension as a permanent solution for Ireland and encouraged other Member States to make use of this option too.

For both France and Luxembourg, the pilot project with Ireland was of great value and both EMSA and Ireland were to be praised for this very cost-efficient approach for which they could already express interest on behalf of their administrations.

On behalf of the Commission (Magda Kopczynska) congratulated the Agency on the comprehensive plan that embraced digital solutions for training activities that were here to stay and thus provided a greater offer and cost-efficient solutions. The Commission was definitely in favour of any synergies between the Agency's and Member States' capacities.

The Chairman highlighted the positive experience on capacity building and confirmed the MaKCs Irish Extension as a permanent solution for Ireland. He also welcomed the obvious interest from other Member States and recalled the proposed way forward: interested Member States should inform EMSA, in writing and by 31 July 2021 at the latest, of the potential interest in using MaKCs services for their national training system.

6. Status of the EMSA Draft Single Programming Document 2022-2024

*(a) The Administrative Board **took note** of the information provided by the Agency on the latest operational and budgetary developments with potential impact on the Draft Single Programming Document 2022-2024 and the corresponding Draft Budget and Establishment Plan for 2022.*

Andrea Tassoni, Head of the Executive Office, recalled that the Agency's initial input for the budgetary procedure for 2022 had been provided in line with instructions outlined in the Commission's Budget Circular for 2022 when the previous year's budget surplus and the new EFTA rate were not known.

The actual budget surplus was known and the new 2022 EFTA rate of 2.51% had been communicated to the Agency at the beginning of May, resulting in a small finetuning with a reduction of € 201,015 which had been spread across the three budget Titles. In terms of human resources, stability remained the norm with 212 posts.

Mr Leendert Bal reassured Denmark, as did the Commission, that the work foreseen in relation to pleasure craft, mentioned in the Single Programming Document 2022-2024 (and requested in the framework of the 5 year strategy), was entirely exploratory, with a view to looking into the differences between Member States in this area.

The Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee reported on the discussions held at the Committee meeting on the resource-related aspect of the Draft EMSA Single Programming Document 2022-2024. The Committee could provide a positive opinion to the Administrative Board.

Anne Montagnon confirmed on behalf of the Commission that everything was in motion for the Commission Opinion that will be adopted and available in July.

The Chairman recalled the deadline of 7 July for written comments by Member States on the document available on the Agency's extranet: [Single Programming Document Evolution \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

The Administrative Board took note of the proposed way forward regarding the European Maritime Safety Report.

Leendert Bal first recalled the Administrative Board the positive experience of the European Maritime Transport Environmental Report. The intention was to apply the same approach but devoted to Maritime Safety. The future bi-annual report should provide a factual overview of the main topics affecting EU maritime safety, provide up-to-date information with a status of ongoing and foreseen actions and highlight challenges and opportunities.

The table of contents proposed in the relevant cover note was structured along the main safety areas in the maritime domain:

- the basic regulatory framework and a brief analysis of maritime transport in the EU, including the fleet of EU Member States
- analysis of the standards from registering the ship to its construction and operation, covering the different elements involved, e.g. human, building and interaction with its environment
- enforcement/compliance checks
- analysis of the main existing instruments to deal with accidents, including the places of refuge, search and rescue and accident investigation
- analysis of potential future trends of maritime transport, autonomous ships, carriage of alternative fuelled vehicles on board ships, the safety challenges associated with the new maritime fuels and e-certificates.

Consultation with maritime stakeholders was a key element to have a complete vision of the topics and it is expected to follow these steps:

- preliminary consultation with the Commission
- presentation to the Administrative Board of EMSA
- creation of a consultation group which would include the Commission (MOVE), shipowners (ECSA), IACS and P&I Clubs (IUMI)
- consultations with targeted groups on specific topics
- once the draft report was mature enough to be presented and discussed, a general workshop would be held with Member States and the above-mentioned stakeholders.

In response to Cyprus who noted the absence of consultation with IMO as international body responsible for safety, Leendert Bal highlighted the difference in scope of the future report that aimed to enhance maritime safety in Europe as opposed to the worldwide focus that IMO has by nature, a statement that was seconded by Denmark.

In response to the representative of the professional sector (Henrik Ringbom) who requested clarification on the reasoning behind the report as well as on its timing and the resources to be deployed, Mr Bal stated that this report would fill a gap as currently no such report existed, however similar reports are issues by other

transport agencies, such as ERA and EASA. It would provide an overview of what maritime safety meant and represented the first attempt to map good policies and work that had been undertaken on maritime safety in the EU. As regards the resources, Mr Bal specified that the first report would be concise and might be developed further based on the first experience gained.

In support of this statement, the Commission (Magda Kopczynska) considered this was a good opportunity to take stock of available information, promote certain issues but also demonstrate competencies of the Agency, and was confident the impact on the daily resources would be kept to a minimum. However, the Agency should ensure there would be no confusion in terms of messaging to the external stakeholders in the context of the impact assessments in relation to the 3 safety directives currently under review.

In response to the Chairman of the Administrative Board on the inclusion of performance indicators in the report, Mr Bal confirmed that the Agency would try to consider the proposal but also highlighted the difficulties of the exercise, mainly due to a lack of reliable datasets available over the years.

In this context, Manuela Tomassini informed the Board about the discussions of the EMSA analytics team on meaningful statistics with available data sets, specifying nevertheless that these were not performance indicators, but represented some indicators that would be available after summer.

(b) No requests for assistance, as referred to in Article 10(2)(c) of the EMSA Founding Regulation, were tabled for examination.

8. EMSA inspections and visits

*The Administrative Board **took note** of the update provided by the Commission on the follow-up to EMSA's inspections and visits.*

The Administrative Board also welcomed the presence as observer and intervention of ESA (EFTA Surveillance Authority) representative Ms LEMONIA TSAROUCHA, Senior Legal Officer and Security Inspector, for this agenda item.

The Commission (Magda Kopczynska) thanked the Board for the opportunity to present its follow-up to EMSA's inspections and visits and recalled that the document circulated ahead of the meeting represented the situation as of 1 January 2021. She highlighted that the level of follow-up remained consistent with the past years and pointed out also the new category added to table with remote visits and inspections and thanked the Agency for the excellent work done.

Poland thanked both the Agency and the Commission for an informative paper that provided a great overview of the work done.

In response to Luxembourg on possible continuation of remote visits to Nigeria due to security risks in that country, Ms Kopczynska underlined difficulties especially for first inspections when fieldwork and in person approach was necessary but promised to look closely into the issue.

Ms LEMONIA TSAROUCHA thanked the Commission for including the visits to Norway and Iceland as well as the Agency for the visits and follow-up and for the assistance in general with the implementation of the acquis.

9. Decision of the Administrative Board amending the Decision of 20 November 2009 laying down rules on the Secondment to EMSA of National Experts and National Experts in Professional Training

*The Administrative Board **adopted** the Decision of the Administrative Board amending the Decision of 20 November 2009 laying down rules on the Secondment to EMSA of National Experts and National Experts in Professional Training.*

Dominika Lempicka-Fichter, Head of Department 4, explained to the Board that under the current Decision, the professional traineeships lasted between three and five months. The amendment submitted for adoption by the Board aimed to give the possibility for the professional traineeship to be extended once for a further period of up to five months. The opportunity had also been taken to update EMSA's tasks as listed under the 'purpose' of the professional training to refer to the current EMSA mandate rather than only marine pollution response, vessel traffic information systems and maritime safety legislation.

She also recalled the importance of the contribution of SNEs and NEPTs to the work of EMSA, and how they foster the exchange of professional experience and knowledge of European policies by temporarily assigning to the Agency experts from the Member States, but highlighted also that in order to activate the extension three conditions were to be met: the agreement of the relevant Member State, business needs of the Agency and the agreement of the individual.

In response to Italy who considered the proposal very stimulating but requested an explanation on the coverage of expenditure, Ms Lempicka-Fichter recalled that the cost of NEPTs in the case of such extension were exclusively borne by National Administrations.

4. Draft Administrative Arrangements

*The Administrative Board **considered and did not object** to the draft Cooperation agreement between the Agency and the European Naval Force Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED) on Operation IRINI, as foreseen by Article 10(2)(cc) of the Founding Regulation.*

Mr Peter Kirov, Head of Department 3 "Digital Services & Simplification" presented the details and purpose of the agreement, which was the provision by the Agency of aerial, maritime and satellite assets.

The Commission (Magda Kopczynska) took the opportunity to express support for this cooperation.

In addition, the Administrative Board took note of the planned new Contribution Agreement for Copernicus Maritime Surveillance covering the years from 2021 to 2027. After recalling the six services of the Copernicus programme, Leendert Bal, Head of Department 2, provided detailed information on the differences between the current Delegation agreement and the future Contribution agreement in duration, budget, staff and focus. Mr Bal also informed the Board that negotiations with DG DEFIS were well underway and a final draft of the agreement should be available shortly and will be submitted to the Administrative Board for consideration by written procedure with a four-week duration as requested by the Founding Regulation.

11. Any Other Business (none tabled)

Dates of next EMSA's Administrative Board Meeting (with the possibility for the Board to travel to Lisbon)

Administrative and Finance Committee: **Tuesday 16 November 2021 (afternoon)**

Administrative Board: **Wednesday 17 November afternoon and Thursday 18 November full day 2021**

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Nordseth".

Andreas Nordseth

Chairman of the Administrative Board

Lisbon, 18 November 2021

EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY (EMSA)

61st Meeting of the Administrative Board, Lisbon, Video Conference, 23 June 2021

LIST OF ATTENDANCE

MEMBER STATES	
BELGIUM	
Peter Claeysens	Alternate Member
BULGARIA	
Lyuba Hristova	Expert
CROATIA	
Siniša Orlić	Board member
Zdravko Seidel	Alternate Member
CYPRUS	
Ioannis Efstratiou	Board Member
DENMARK	
Andreas Nordseth	Board Member - Chairman of the Board
Niels Peter Fredslund	Alternate Member
Mette Festersen Jensen	Expert
ESTONIA	
Marek Rauk	Board Member
FINLAND	
Juha-Matti Korsi	Board Member
FRANCE	
Vincent Denamur	Alternate Member
GERMANY	
Achim Wehrmann	Board Member
GREECE	
Christos Kontorouchas	Board Member
Spyros Syrigos	Alternate Member
HUNGARY	
Csaba Bellyei	Board Member
IRELAND	
Deirdre O'Keeffe	Board Member

ITALY	
Nicola Carlone	Deputy Chairman of the Board
Claudio Manganiello	Expert
LATVIA	
Laima Rituma	Alternate Member
LITHUANIA	
Linas Kasparavicius	Board Member
LUXEMBOURG	
Robert Biwer	Board Member
MALTA	
Ivan Sammut	Board Member
THE NETHERLANDS	
Paul van Gorp	Board Member
POLAND	
Wojciech Zdanowicz	Alternate Member
PORTUGAL	
Paolo Pamplona	Alternate Member
ROMANIA	
Dorel Constantin Onaca	Board Member
SLOVAKIA	
Josef Mrkva	Board Member
SPAIN	
Benito Núñez Quintanilla	Board Member – Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee
Fernández Abad Luis Javier	Alternate Member
SWEDEN	
Pernilla Wallin	Board Member
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	
Magda Kopczynska	Board Member
Ilkka Salmi	Board Member
Fotini Ioannidou	Alternate Member
Barbara Sellier	Alternate Member

Veronica Manfredi	Alternate Member
Anne Montagnon	Board Member
Cristina Cuadra Garcia	Alternate Member
Isabel Baez	Expert
Adriano Addis	Expert
Asta Mackeviciute	Expert
EFTA STATES	
NORWAY	
Lars Alvestad	Alternate Member
ICELAND	
Jon Gunnar	Board Member
PROFESSIONAL SECTOR	
Thomas Kazakos	Board Member
Henrik Ringbom	Board Member
Dorotea Zec	Board Member
ESA OBSERVER (EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY)	
Lemonia Tsaroucha	ESA, Senior Legal Officer, Security Inspector
EMSA	
Manuela Tomassini	Head of Department 1 Sustainability
Leendert Bal	Head of Department 2 Safety, Security & Surveillance
Peter Kirov	Head of Department 3 Digital Services & Simplification
Dominika Lempicka-Fichter	Head of Department 4 Corporate Services
Andrea Tassoni	Head of Unit Executive Office, Board Secretariat
Frédéric Hebert	Head of Unit 1.1
Georgios Christofi	Head of Unit 1.3
Ioannis Mispinas	Head of Unit 2.1
Pedro Lourenço	Acting Head of Unit 2.2
Luksa Čičovački	Head of Unit 3.1
Ivo Kupsky	Head of Unit 3.2
Radina Russeva	Policy Adviser
Davide Mola	Accounting Officer
Lorenzo Fiamma	Chairman, EMSA Staff Committee

Delfina Ribeiro	EMSA Staff Committee
Henning Stelter	Senior Budget Officer – Planning and Monitoring
Soraya Obura	Senior Assistant for Planning and Reporting – Planning and Monitoring
Selena Matic	Senior Administrative Assistant – Planning and Monitoring