



## COMMISSION PROPOSES TO AMEND EMSA'S FOUNDING REGULATION AS PART OF NEW BORDER PACKAGE

The European Commission recently put forward a set of proposals (the so-called 'border package'), introducing the European Border and Coast Guard Agency. Part of this package is a [proposal \(COM\[2015\] 667 final\)](#) to amend the EMSA founding regulation. The purpose is to foster closer cooperation between EMSA, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (previously Frontex) and the European Fisheries Control Agency in order to provide more efficient and cost-effective multi-purpose services to support national authorities carrying out coast guard functions. This will build on and strengthen the existing cooperation between the three agencies, and raise the profile of coast guard functions across Europe. For EMSA specifically, it is anticipated that there will be a large impact on the Agency's activities in the following areas: improving maritime surveillance capabilities; providing flexible services based on remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS); securing satellite AIS data; and capacity building, for example through an increase in the provision of training programmes. Under the current proposal, if approved by the EU institutions, EMSA would receive for these tasks an additional €87 million for the period 2017-2020. The text now needs to go through the codecision procedure of the European Council and Parliament for review, changes, and finally for adoption. The European Council agreed to fast track and work towards a Council position during the Dutch EU Presidency in the first half of 2016.

## USING BEHAVIOUR DETECTION SYSTEMS FOR GREATER MARITIME AWARENESS

Experts from EU member states and agencies actively using or developing Maritime Anomaly Detection Systems and Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) for surveillance purposes gathered at EMSA for a practical workshop on 2 December. The main objective was to share knowledge on existing ABM and their practical applications. There is a high demand for tools to assist and support maritime surveillance operators. These tools should provide increased maritime situation awareness through statistical and rule-based anomaly analysis. Sweden presented the outcome of the research project on statistical anomaly detection (SADV) in the maritime domain, while Italy demonstrated their rule-based operational approach. Feedback was given from Malta, UK, Ireland and Frontex on the existing tools offered within the Integrated Maritime Services.



## RAISING AWARENESS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE SHIP RECYCLING REGULATION

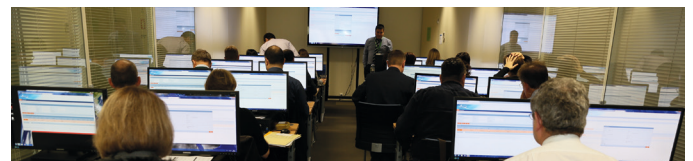
EMSA held a workshop on the Ship Recycling Regulation on 19-20 November, gathering 42 participants from 21 EU countries, the European Commission and experts from industry. The main topics addressed were: hazardous materials on board ships; the development of the inventory of hazardous materials for new and existing ships; implementation of the relevant provisions of the Ship Recycling Regulation by member states as Flag and Port States. Various issues were raised during the meeting such as implementation and enforcement challenges; interaction between the regulation and international instruments; ensuring harmonised implementation; and, areas for further assistance from EMSA.



EMSA has been providing technical assistance on ship recycling since 2006

## NEW THETIS MODULE SUPPORTS ENFORCEMENT OF PRF DIRECTIVE

EMSA held the first workshop for the new module in THETIS to support the enforcement of the Port Waste Reception Facilities (PRF) Directive on 18 November. Some 25 people from 21 member states attended the workshop, during which they tested the system and undertook a series of practical exercises, so they could develop an understanding of the versatility and benefits of the module and its use in their inspection and enforcement regimes. The module will initially enable member states to log the findings of their inspections and get access to the both the inspection history of a ship under the PRF Directive and the electronic waste notification history of individual vessels.



PRF Directive aims to reduce illegal discharges from ships using ports in the EU

## STATE VISIT BRINGS PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, MICHAEL D HIGGINS, TO EMSA



EMSA was honoured to welcome the President of Ireland and his wife to its premises on 10 December. The esteemed guests were given a tour of EMSA as well as a demonstration of the operational services.

[emsa.europa.eu](http://emsa.europa.eu)

**CAREERS:** Project Officer for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (deadline: 11/01/2016)

**PROCUREMENT:** ICT services related to the design and development of EMSA's Earth Observation Data Centre (deadline: 25/01/2016); THETIS enhancement and maintenance (deadline: 18/01/2016)