

45th Meeting of the Administrative Board Lisbon, 2 - 3 June 2016

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The Administrative Board approved the Summary of Decisions and the Minutes of the 44th meeting held on 17-18 March 2016 in Lisbon.

(The approved minutes, as signed by the Chairman of the Administrative Board, are available online here <http://www.emsa.europa.eu>).

3. Adoption of the list of "A" items

The Administrative Board adopted or took note of, 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.

(a) EMSA Financial Statement for 2015 - Adopted subject to certification without reserve by the European Court of Auditors.

(b) Monitoring of findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and EMSA follow up (ECA, IAS) - Took note

(c) 2016 Budget Update - Took note

4. EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015

(a) Consideration and adoption by the Administrative Board

The Administrative Board considered and adopted the EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015 in accordance with Articles 15(2)(d) and 10(2)(b) of the EMSA Founding Regulation, and the EMSA 2015 Accounts, subject to certification without reserve by the European Court of Auditors. Formal Approval by the Court of Auditors certifying that the 2015 Accounts are regular, conform and legal is expected early autumn.

(b) Assessment by the Administrative Board

The Administrative Board provided a positive assessment of the EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015, in accordance with Article 47 of the EMSA Financial Regulation.

5. Draft EMSA Single Programming Document 2017 – 2019

The Administrative Board:

- took note of preliminary information from the Commission on the forthcoming Commission Opinion on the Draft SPD 2017-2019, which would be issued by the deadline of 1 July 2016;
- took note of additional written comments by Member States on the Draft EMSA Single Programming Document 2017-2019 that was adopted at the March meeting, and the reaction by EMSA;
- took note of the information on planned activities on cooperation on coastguard functions based on the upcoming amendment to the Agency's Founding Regulation, related procurement and the EP Pilot Project for the enhancement of Coast Guard cooperation (EMSA, Frontex, EFCA), for further elaboration and inclusion in the Draft SPD2017-2019 subject to relevant developments;
- agreed with the proposed vessel and equipment arrangements for the Baltic Sea and the subsequent rearrangement of the budget and agreed with the proposed way to tender for the Equipment Assistance

Service for the South in the Adriatic, for further elaboration and inclusion in the Draft SPD2017-2019 in the light of relevant developments;

- examined and approved the request from Portugal for technical assistance on the implementation of the National Single Window, in line with article 10(2)(c) of the EMSA Founding Regulation.

Administrative Board members were invited to provide any further written comments on the Draft SPD 2017-2019 by 1 September 2016.

6. Draft Administrative Arrangements

No draft administrative arrangements were tabled for consideration. Written procedures would be submitted for the consideration of the Administrative Board for activities announced under agenda item 5, notably: a Grant Agreement between EMSA and DG MARE for the pilot project on coastguard cooperation, hopefully in summer 2016; and a Memorandum of Cooperation with Eurocontrol in connection with the permission to fly for RPAS services in civil airspace.

7. EMSA inspections and visits

(a) Visits to Member States - Cost-Efficiency Assessment

The Administrative Board took note of the update provided by the Agency on the trial assessment on the Port State Control Directive. Member States that had not yet provided the necessary contact information for receiving of information through the e-delivery tool were encouraged to do so at their earliest convenience.

(b) 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.

8. Update on other Agency activities

(a) Copernicus Services

The Administrative Board took note of the information provided by the Agency on Copernicus Services. The Agency would explore with the Commission the possibility of sharing elements of the relevant implementation report.

(b) Training and Cooperation

The Administrative Board took note of the information provided by the Agency on SAFEMED III and TRACECA II activities.

9. Any Other Business

(a) External Evaluation of the Agency

The Administrative Board took note of the outcome/progress of the procurement procedure for the External Evaluation of the Agency.

(b) Any other item upon request

The Agency announced:

- the kick off meeting for the fire safety study on 14 June in Sweden, encouraging relevant technical experts from the Member States to participate (no expenses covered by EMSA);
- the first workshop under the new methodology to prepare the upcoming cycle of visits to Member States for the Sulphur Directive, to be held on 14-15 June at EMSA and to which both implementation and enforcement representatives had been invited;
- the signing ceremony for the updated Equasis MoU on 6 July 2016 at the IMO.

Denmark announced they would discontinue hosting the HELCOM regional server.

Date of next Administrative and Finance Committee Meeting:

Thursday 17 November (morning)

Date of next Administrative Board Meeting:

Thursday 17 November (afternoon) and Friday 18 November (morning)

MINUTES

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

The Chairman announced newly appointed members and the proposed agenda was adopted.

New Members and Alternate Members were announced as follows:

- Nomination of the newly appointed Administrative Board alternate from Bulgaria, Mr Petar Kirov, Chief Secretary, Bulgarian Maritime Administration, replacing Ms Anna Natova.
- Nomination of the newly appointed Administrative Board representatives from France, Board Member Mr Thierry Coquil, Directeur des Affaires Maritimes, Direction générale des infrastructures des transports et de la mer, replacing Ms Régine Bréhier, and alternate Member Mr Vincent Denamur, Sous-Directeur de la Sécurité Maritime, Direction des Affaires Maritimes, replacing Jean-Luc Le Liboux, including as member of the Administrative and Finance Committee.
- Nomination of the newly appointed Administrative Board representatives from Cyprus, Board Member Mr Ioannis Efstratiou, Acting Director of the Cyprus Department of Merchant Shipping, replacing Mr Chrysostomou following his retirement, and alternate Member Mr Costas Costaras, Senior Marine Surveyor of the Cyprus Department of Merchant Shipping, replacing Mr Demetriades.
- Ms Florika Fink-Hooijer, DG ECHO, has changed functions within the Commission, the replacement is to be appointed.

Absences and proxies were signalled as follows:

- Mr Henrik Hololei, Director General DG MOVE was not able to participate and was represented by Mr Fotis Karamitsos.
- Austria and Slovakia were not represented at the meeting and did not provide proxies.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

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(The approved minutes, as signed by the Chairman of the Administrative Board, are available online here <http://www.emsa.europa.eu>).

3. Adoption of the list of "A" items

The Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee (AFC), Mr Agisilaos Anastasakos, reported on the deliberations and recommendations of the Committee concerning the "A" items. Mr Agisilaos Anastasakos informed the Administrative Board that a quorum was in place, with the representatives from the United Kingdom, Poland, Germany, Greece, Sweden and the Commission attending the meeting, allowing the Committee to exercise its mandate in relation to the "A" points and "B" points on their agenda.

The Committee had been satisfied with all the "A" points and could recommend that the Administrative Board take note, consider or adopt them as appropriate, "en bloc"; and the Administrative Board took note, considered and adopted them as appropriate, "en bloc", as detailed below.

(a) EMSA Financial Statement for 2015 - Adopted subject to certification without reserve by the European Court of Auditors.

The Accounting Officer Mr Michel Metzger presented the accounts, which contained no preliminary findings from the ECA. The Committee took note of the higher budgetary execution in 2015 compared to 2014 and

the continued increase in investment in assets and in project financing. No reservations were enclosed in the "Management Representation Letter" signed jointly by the Executive Director and the Accounting Officer.

(b) Monitoring of findings and recommendations from internal and external audits and EMSA follow up (ECA, IAS) - Took note

The Committee examined the recommendations and findings stemming from various audit reports and evaluations covering the last two years presented by the Internal Control Coordinator Mr Tom Van Hees, noted that there were no open recommendations prior to the period covered, and was satisfied with Agency's follow-up of findings and recommendations from internal and external audits.

(c) 2016 Budget Update - Took note

The Committee noted the information provided by the Policy Adviser, Mr Andrea Tassoni, concerning cash payment of earmarked revenues, which until receipt is recorded as "p.m." in the budget. Following information provided by the Commission at the previous AFC meeting and reported in the previous ABM, such earmarked revenues, once cashed, would automatically be loaded into the Agency's budget and therefore would only require an amendment of the budget and its adoption by the Administrative Board at the end of the calendar year. The Agency would continue to inform the Administrative Board of amounts as cashed, and had done so at the AFC meeting.

Denmark took the floor at the ABM to enquire whether more detailed explanations could be provided in the Financial Statement concerning more complex items, such as the consequences of the bankruptcy of AW Tankers. The Agency would follow-up with the Accounting Officer in view of the next Financial Statement.

4. EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015

The Chairman recalled the procedure, established the previous year, according to which the Board would first debate the contents of the CAAR and then develop its assessment of the CAAR.

The Executive Director introduced the CAAR2015, which provided a detailed account of the actions carried out in accordance with the work programme for the corresponding year, including the gradual implementation of the initial 5% staff cut provided for under the Commission Communication on programming of human and financial resources for decentralised agencies 2014-2020, notably the earmarking of five posts in the 2015 establishment plan for expected staff cuts in 2016. EMSA continued to make a difference, working with the Member States and the Commission to develop the new methodology for visits, to provide support in the framework of the National Single Windows, and to promote EU standards with our neighbours.

The Policy Adviser recalled the main structural elements of the document, which had not changed since the previous year. Following a short video on EMSA activities in 2015, a format that was appreciated by Members, in particular the fact that staff members were presenting the activities, some information was provided on EMSA performance indicators and external communication activities. A short "facts and figures 2015" would also be published to transmit the achievements of 2015 to a wider audience.

(a) Consideration and adoption by the Administrative Board

The Chairman invited Members to comment on the different sections of the document in turn.

Part I.2

In response to Germany, the Agency explained that planned and actual human resources can differ because the baseline differs, namely that planned human resources are based on the full establishment plan,

including posts that may be frozen for future expected cuts or vacancies that are or will be under recruitment, but also in response to the evolution of business needs and priorities. Reorganisations take place to adapt to change, for instance the maturing of certain activities can allow for resources to be shifted to high priority or pressure areas.

Part I.3

Germany enquired when work on RO performance criteria within the COSS Committee would resume, and stressed the importance of the dialogue with the ROs and of sharing information related to the EMSA Inspections. The Agency explained that the COSS Committee was the responsibility of the Commission. As concerns the dialogue with the ROs, every second year the Commission holds a meeting in Brussels, and a technical meeting at EMSA takes place in between, so that opportunities to meet are offered on a yearly basis.

The Commission referred back to this point later in the meeting to highlight that EMSA inspections were one step among several in the process of assessment of ROs, which was the prerogative of the Commission. Apart from the exchange which took place in the COSS committee every 18 months, it was by no means foreseen to disseminate information emanating from inspections, which included commercial and other sensitive data, to any other than the Member State in question. However, a recent pilot project to standardise national reporting on ROs could contribute to enhancing transparency.

Part I.4

Following the question from Denmark, the Agency would add a footnote to the KPI on number of accidents reported in EMCIP to clarify that the increase reflected more reporting, not more accidents, after some Member States had overcome initial difficulties with the setting up of an accident investigation body.

The Agency explained for France that the concept of annual execution did not apply to project-financed funds, known as R0 funds, as they are multi-annual in principle and not subject to the so-called "annuality" applicable to the Agency's subsidy. The SAFEMED III and TRACECA II projects, and all other project-financed activities, were allocated an envelope for the particular timeframe of the project. Financial management of the project – for example at what moment parts or all of the funds for parts or all of the timeframe were received – depended on the business needs of each project.

Part III Management

Under this item the Agency wished to recall that very few Administrative Board Member CVs were missing in order to fully comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy and encouraged the remaining Members to kindly provide theirs at their earliest convenience.

Annexes:

The data provided in the annex was generally appreciated. The Commission highlighted the positive performance indicated by the KPIs. Concerning presentation, suggestions were made to include evolutionary statistics for KPIs (Denmark) and for manpower (Netherlands). The Agency would try to accommodate these.

The Administrative Board considered and adopted the EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015 in accordance with Articles 15(2)(d) and 10(2)(b) of the EMSA Founding Regulation, and the EMSA 2015 Accounts, subject to certification without reserve by the European Court of Auditors. Formal Approval by the Court of Auditors certifying that the 2015 Accounts are regular, conform and legal is expected early autumn.

(b) Assessment by the Administrative Board

The Chairman presented the draft, noting the three part structure – strategic achievements, operational achievements, and management – agreed the previous year, and invited members to discuss and develop the content after the Administrative and Finance Committee's had reported its opinion, in accordance with its mandate, on the third part of the document.

As reported by its Chairman, the Administrative and Finance Committee endorsed the management section and had noted in particular the Agency's efforts to maintain the same level and quality of output in spite of staff reductions; the very high execution rate which was a significant improvement on the previous year, 2014, where the Agency had suffered a penalty; and the thorough follow-up given to audit recommendations.

Administrative Board members debated and further developed the assessment, which was redrafted accordingly by its Chairman for final agreement the following day.

The Administrative Board provided a positive assessment of the EMSA Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015, in accordance with Article 47 of the EMSA Financial Regulation.

5. Draft EMSA Single Programming Document 2017 – 2019

Mr Andrea Tassoni recalled the status of the document, which had been considered by the Administrative Board in its first version in November the previous year, submitted to the institutions on January 31st of the current year as part of the Agency's input for the budgetary procedure in accordance with the EMSA Financial Regulation, and adopted as a preliminary version by the Administrative Board in March of the current year in accordance with the EMSA Founding Regulation. The final version would be adopted by the Administrative Board in November of the current year, in accordance with the EMSA Founding Regulation and subject to the outcome of the budgetary procedure. As was now the Agency practice for some years, the present June meeting was an opportunity to take stock of developments and agree on their impact on the document.

As reported by its Chairman, the Administrative and Finance Committee had considered the resource related aspects of the Draft SPD 2017-2019 and taken note of the Commission's information to the Agency, since the March Administrative Board meeting, of a change in the EFTA rate, down from 2.76 % to 2.47%. This would have a negative impact on the Draft Budget 2017 but concrete figures would only become clear at the next Administrative Board meeting in November as changes in the amounts to which the EFTA rate is applied could still evolve under the on-going budgetary procedure.

The Commission advanced the main elements of its formal Opinion on the Draft SPD 2017-2019, which was under preparation in view of the July 1 deadline, highlighting key areas where the Agency added value to the Commission and the Member States. The maritime transport and surveillance systems provided essential support to the digitalisation of maritime transport, which was a high priority in the coming years, notably single reporting and integrated maritime systems, the benefits of which were multiple for safety, security and the environment. Inspections would be further enhanced by the new Methodology and the mobilisation of multiple sources of information, and the work on cost-efficiency would lead to the fruitful exchange of best practices. THETIS had evolved to support to the implementation of a growing selection of legislative packages and the capacity building activities with the ENP countries was supporting approximation beyond the EU. In the pollution response sector, capacity was being enhanced including through exploring new technologies such as RPAS. Finally, efficiency gains demonstrated through a shift in resources from

horizontal to operational activities were welcomed, as was the completion of the job screening exercise to support redeployment efforts.

The Administrative Board took note of preliminary information from the Commission on the forthcoming Commission Opinion on the Draft SPD 2017-2019, which would be issued by the deadline of 1 July 2016.

Member States' comments and the EMSA response:

The Commission clarified for Italy that the development for RPAS services in the context of cooperation with Frontex would in no way engage EMSA in border surveillance activities and, furthermore, the capabilities thus developed would, in multiple ways, come to benefit other areas of maritime safety, security and, as pointed out by Denmark, pollution prevention and response.

The Commission also responded to questions, generated by the written comments of the Netherlands, concerning the possibly conflicting notions of a "National" vs a "European" single window (Italy), as well as possible duplication of efforts and lack of coordination with other Commission services and related stakeholders such as DG MARE and DG TAXUD and parallel initiatives (Germany). The Commission acknowledged and shared the view that interoperability across Member States but also across the relevant communities had to be ensured, whatever the route followed, pointing out that the Directive in fact did not specify the route – National or European – but indeed the non-duplication of the act of reporting. Recalling the well-passed deadline for implementation, as well as growing pressure from Industry for simplification, the Commission hoped that the focus would remain on finding the most efficient route to help Member States comply by capitalising on the demonstrated potential of systems that actually existed and a certain critical mass gathering around them. Legacy systems were not incompatible with this approach, a fact that might reassure certain communities. Member States added that all relevant communities needed to be involved in the process (Denmark, Italy) though leadership might naturally and preferably fall to maritime transport (Greece).

The Administrative Board took note of additional written comments by Member States on the Draft EMSA Single Programming Document 2017-2019 that was adopted at the March meeting and the reaction by EMSA.

Vessel and equipment arrangements for the Baltic Sea

Following the input and comments received by the Agency from Estonia, Finland and Latvia, data and risks had been further assessed, in particular the volumes of oil transported through the Gulf of Finland. Mr Leendert Bal, Head of Department C "Operations", explained that in order to procure a second vessel for the region, which required approximately 3 million euro, funds would be reallocated in 2017 from the Equipment Assistance Service in the Mediterranean. The later would be topped up the following year instead. In this respect the Agency welcomed the interest expressed by Italy and Croatia to host the equipment depots, but all agreed that the Agency would as usual determine the most cost-efficient Adriatic location after receiving bids for the service.

The Administrative Board agreed with the proposed vessel and equipment arrangements for the Baltic Sea and the subsequent rearrangement of the budget and agreed with the proposed way to tender for the Equipment Assistance Service for the South in the Adriatic, for further elaboration and inclusion in the Draft SPD2017-2019 in the light of relevant developments.

Planned activities on cooperation on coastguard functions

Mr Leendert Bal outlined the substance of the four tasks provided for in the proposed amendment to the Agency's Founding Regulation, as well as the budget proposed by the Commission for 2017-2020 for the tasks that would be allocated to EMSA. Under the information sharing label, the maritime picture already developed through existing cooperation with Frontex and EFCA would be further enhanced - with VMS data for fishing vessels to support SAR operations, environmental data, algorithms to filter the increasingly large amount of information and data processing capability for RPAS sensor information. Under surveillance services, the focus was on the provision of RPAS services in support of all Coast Guard functions, not only border control, upon request of Member States, and satellite-AIS data with global coverage. Exploratory work in relation to RPAS had already begun in view of the challenges to be addressed, notably the regulatory void for civilian RPAS use, as well as the applicability of the technology beyond the coastguard dimension, across the range of maritime safety, security and pollution prevention and response needs. The capacity building task was already being explored through a GAP analysis with EFCA and Frontex in order to identify where the agencies could benefit most from each other, and would involve training, distance learning, workshops and information exchange and cross-fertilisation. Finally, the multipurpose operations task which aimed to use surveillance assets for several functions concerned mostly EFCA and Frontex, for instance the presence of fisheries control officers on border control vessels.

Ms Manuela Tomassini, Head of Department B "Safety and Standards", presented the pilot project to prepare the cooperation described above. While the expected grant agreement, which the Board would be asked to consider by written procedure, and project financing for 2016 were not yet in place – a precondition for conducting the planned RPAS demonstration exercise – the agencies were already engaging with each other in order to be ready to deliver. This preparatory interaction had already proven useful in terms of identifying the strengths and particularities of each agency and fine-tuning communication channels. As part of this familiarisation phase EMSA had been participating in the European Coast Guard Functions Forum, which was already actively engaged in mapping and developing training and guidelines at national level and where it was therefore very important that all coastguard functions were represented, regardless of the bodies which covered them.

Concerning the various planned procurement procedures, it was necessary to launch them in advance in order to be ready once formally tasked. This did not constitute a risk as such procedures could be cancelled without any impact on the Agency. The Agency clarified for the Netherlands that a contract to bridge the gap between the end of the ESA agreement for SAT-AIS data and the implementation of the coastguard package was being procured, and the costs would be split between EMSA and Frontex.

Overall, the cooperation described was warmly welcomed by Greece and Italy in particular. In terms of the geographical and functional availability of RPAS services, it was clarified for Bulgaria that just like any other EMSA service, they would not be limited to the current focal point of the Mediterranean and border control. The Commission further emphasised the point that the coastguard package as a whole would clearly benefit the range of maritime safety, security and pollution prevention and response services of the Agency and add value in all those areas to Member States. The Commission and the Agency confirmed that the planned activities would need to be included in the annual work programme for 2017 in order to allow the Agency to implement the tasks assigned to it once the package was approved.

The Administrative Board took note of the information on planned activities on cooperation on coastguard functions based on the upcoming amendment to the Agency's Founding Regulation, related procurement and the EP Pilot Project for the enhancement of Coast Guard cooperation

(EMSA, Frontex, EFCA), for further elaboration and inclusion in the Draft SPD2017-2019 subject to relevant developments.

Requests for assistance

Portugal explained the formal request submitted to the Agency to use its NSW prototype. Mr Leendert Bal confirmed that the request was fully acceptable and aligned with similar assistance already provided to other Member States.

The Administrative Board examined and approved the request from Portugal for technical assistance on the implementation of the National Single Window, in line with article 10(2)(c) of the EMSA Founding Regulation.

Administrative Board members were invited to provide any further written comments on the Draft SPD 2017-2019 by 1 September 2016.

6. Draft Administrative Arrangements

No draft administrative arrangements were tabled for consideration. Written procedures would be submitted for the consideration of the Administrative Board for activities announced under agenda item 5, notably: a Grant Agreement between EMSA and DG MARE for the pilot project on coastguard cooperation, hopefully in summer 2016; and a Memorandum of Cooperation with Eurocontrol in connection with the permission to fly for RPAS services in civil airspace.

7. EMSA inspections and visits

(a) Visits to Member States - Cost-Efficiency Assessment

Ms Manuela Tomassini reported on the progress of the ongoing trial cost-efficiency assessment on the Port State Control Directive. Additional information from Member States had been requested, as planned, and should be provided by Member States that had not already done so by the end of June. Member States were reminded that unlike the horizontal analyses, anonymity would not be advisable in order to have a really meaningful exercise in the context of a cost-efficiency assessment. A full update on the exercise would be provided at the November meeting.

The Administrative Board took note of the update provided by the Agency on the trial assessment on the Port State Control Directive. Member States that had not yet provided the necessary contact information for receiving of information through the e-delivery tool were encouraged to do so at their earliest convenience.

(c) EMSA inspections and visits

The Commission reviewed the meeting document detailing the Commission follow-up to EMSA inspections, highlighting that the assessment rate was relatively stable now at around 80%, which was considered to be effective, also taking into account that the remaining amount was essentially linked to requests for further information from Member States in the context of the usual dialogue between them and the Commission before finalising assessments. It was also hoped that the dissemination of information mid-cycle would be enhanced through the workshops provided for under the new Methodology for visits.

The Commission acknowledged Poland's concerns regarding a reasonable gap between EMSA and MARSEC inspections, and would endeavour to discuss possible coordination with the relevant services.

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

8. Update on other Agency activities

(a) Copernicus Services

Mr Leendert Bal recalled the signature of the Delegation Agreement in December 2015 making EMSA the "Entrusted Entity" for the implementation of maritime surveillance services. EMSA's approach to the task was focused on how to add value for and better serve Member States. In practice, work would be centred on adding an earth observation component to existing services and combining earth observation data with other data. As always in the ongoing data integration process to provide an ever more complete and tailored maritime picture to user communities, services would be delivered in accordance with existing data access rights.

The Administrative Board took note of the information provided by the Agency on Copernicus Services. The Agency would explore with the Commission the possibility of sharing elements of the relevant implementation report.

(c) Training and Cooperation

Ms Manuela Tomassini provided an overview of the budget, duration, beneficiary countries and scope of both projects, as well as information on the uptake of not only training, but also technical services and tools - which included RuleCheck and the Distance Learning Programme (also available to Turkey through the MED and BS MoUs), CleanSeaNet and SAT-AIS data delivered through IMDatE, as well as one anti-pollution exercise in each region - in a model of action that was moving increasingly from training into the broader concept of capacity building, notably to approximate legislation, standards and practices. Mapping existing capabilities and capacities was part of the process and was underway in both regions.

Apart from developing very positive communication channels with some of the countries, one of the key achievements of the projects was the high level of support and involvement of EU Member States in the transfer of skills and best practices. In terms of areas for improvement, in order to address low uptake and participation among some potential beneficiaries, EMSA's awareness of their specific needs, and their awareness of the added value of the available tools and services would be raised through fact-finding and dissemination exercises. Finally, while the extension of SAFEMED III for 9 months until 15 March 2017 would bridge the gap until the follow-up project for the southern ENP countries was expected to start, there would be a 6 month period between the end of TRACECA II, extended to 31 July 2016, and the start in February 2017 of the follow-up project for the northern ENP countries.

Greece and Italy expressed their strong appreciation and support for the work to build approximation in the Mediterranean and looked forward to its continuation and to greater uptake across the eastern Mediterranean beneficiaries. Recognizing the complexities of the region, the Agency was also committed to promoting participation.

The Administrative Board took note of the information provided by the Agency on SAFEMED III and TRACECA II activities.

9. Any Other Business

(a) External Evaluation of the Agency

The Policy Advisor informed Board Members that the procurement procedure was almost complete, within the intended timetable. It was therefore hoped that the execution of the contract could begin on schedule in mid-June and allow for at least indications of preliminary findings to be presented at the next ABM in November.

The Administrative Board took note of the outcome/progress of the procurement procedure for the External Evaluation of the Agency.

(b) Any other item upon request

The Agency announced:

- the kick off meeting for the fire safety study on 14 June in Sweden, encouraging relevant technical experts from the Member States to participate (no expenses covered by EMSA);
- the first workshop under the new methodology to prepare the upcoming cycle of visits to Member States for the Sulphur Directive, to be held on 14-15 June at EMSA and to which both implementation and enforcement representatives had been invited;
- the signing ceremony for the updated Equasis MoU on 6 July 2016 at the IMO.

Denmark wished to point out that a proper implementation of the Sulphur Directive needed to involve Russia in the use of THETIS-S.

Denmark announced they would discontinue hosting the HELCOM regional server. While the Agency wished to clarify that, in accordance with the interface control document, Member States were able and free to choose their preferred connection model – via a regional server or directly to EMSA – the Commission suggested it might make more financial and tactical sense to move towards direct connections to EMSA.

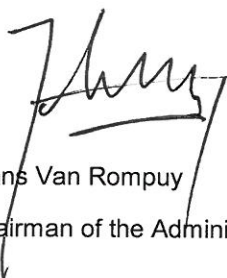
Date of next Administrative and Finance Committee Meeting:

Thursday 17 November (morning)

Date of next Administrative Board Meeting:

Thursday 17 November (afternoon) and Friday 18 November (morning)

Signed:



Frans Van Rompuy

Chairman of the Administrative Board

Lisbon, 18 November 2016

EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY (EMSA)45th Meeting of the Administrative Board, Lisbon, 2-3 June 2016**LIST OF ATTENDANCE**

MEMBER STATES	
BELGIUM	
Frans Van Rompuy	Board Member - Chairman of the Board
Peter Claeysens	Alternate Member
BULGARIA	
Petar Kirov	Alternate Member
CROATIA	
Goran Šarin	Board Member
Lukša Čičovački	Alternate Member
CZECH REPUBLIC	
Evzen Vydra	Board Member
DENMARK	
Andreas Nordseth	Board Member
Pernille Palmelund Sorensen	Expert
ESTONIA	
Tarmo Ots	Alternate Member
FINLAND	
Tuomas Routa	Board Member
FRANCE	
Vincent Denamur	Alternate Member
GERMANY	
Jan Reche	Alternate Member
GREECE	
Agisilaos Anastasakos	Alternate Member – Chairman of the Administrative and Finance Committee
HUNGARY	
Csaba Bellyei	Alternate Member

IRELAND	
Deirdre Mary O'Keeffe	Board Member
ITALY	
Piero Pellizzari	Alternate Member
LATVIA	
Janis Krastins	Board Member
LITHUANIA	
Robertinas Tarasevičius	Board Member
LUXEMBOURG	
Joël Mathieu	Alternate Member
MALTA	
Dulcie Zammit	Expert
THE NETHERLANDS	
Lieske Streefkerk-Arts	Alternate Member
POLAND	
Wojciech Zdanowicz	Board Member
PORTUGAL	
Miguel Sequeira	Board Member
José Maciel	Alternate Member
ROMANIA	
Gheorghe Varbanescu	Expert
SLOVENIA	
Jadran Klinec	Board Member
SPAIN	
Benito Núñez Quintanilla	Alternate Member
SWEDEN	
Pernilla Wallin	Board Member
THE UNITED KINGDOM	
Lola Fadina	Board Member
Andrew Angel	Alternate Member

EUROPEAN COMMISSION	
Fotis Karamitsos	Board Member
Barbara Sellier	Alternate Member

PROFESSIONALS FROM SECTORS CONCERNED	
Bernd Kröger	Board Member
Kaia Vask	Board Member

EFTA STATES	
NORWAY	
Arve Dimmen	Expert
ICELAND	
Thorolfur Arnason	Board Member

EMSA STAFF	
Markku Mylly	Executive Director
Isabel Torné	Head of Department A – Corporate Services
Manuela Tomassini	Head of Department B – Safety and Standards
Leendert Bal	Head of Department C – Operations
Cristina Romay Lopez	Head of Unit A.1 – Human Resources and Internal Support
Mario Mifsud	Head of Unit B.1 – Visits & Inspections
Michael Hunter	Head of Unit B.2 – Ship Safety
Georgios Christofi	Head of Unit B.3 – Environment & Enforcement
Bernd Bluhm	Head of Unit C.1 – Pollution Preparedness Services
Ivo Kupsky	Head of Unit C.4 – Digitalisation & Application Development
Andrea Tassoni	Policy Adviser
Soraya Obura	Senior Assistant for Planning and Reporting
Selena Matic	Senior Administrative Assistant