

VAN ROMPUY AND WEHRMANN TO HEAD EMSA ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD



Frans Van Rompuy (left) and Achim Wehrmann (right) will head up the Administrative Board for three years starting in January 2012.

The November Board meeting saw the current Chairperson, the Dane Jørg Hämmer Hansen, step down as Chair. Mr Hammer Hansen has served as Chairperson of the [EMSA Administrative Board](#) since 2008. The Board voted in a new Chairperson, Frans Van Rompuy, a long-serving board member from Belgium. Mr Van Rompuy takes up duties as new Chairperson on January 1 2012, with a term of three years. The November 2011 Board meeting also appointed a Deputy Chair of the Board, Achim Wehrmann of Germany, who takes over from the previous Deputy Chairperson, Serghios Serghiou, of Cyprus.

EMSA MANAGEMENT IN TRANSITION



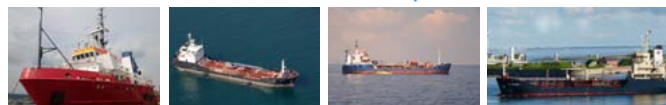
Taking the helm: Leendert Bal has emphasised that things are 'business as usual' for EMSA in the period before a new Executive Director is appointed.

November 30 saw the retirement of EMSA's first 'captain', Willem de Ruiter, who has been Executive Director of the Agency since it began nearly a decade ago. Mr de Ruiter was able to provide an overview of EMSA's achievements to date at a special maritime conference. As many participants noted at the conference, Mr de Ruiter 'will be a tough act to follow'. IMO Secretary General Efthimios Mitropoulos [praised](#) Mr de Ruiter's 'vision and foresight but also to his immense dedication, firm and unbendable attitude and strong determination'. Recruitment is now under way for a successor. It is expected that the Administrative Board will vote on a shortlist of proposed candidates during the March 2012 Board meeting. In the meantime Leendert Bal – currently head of EMSA's [Department C](#) (Operations) - has taken over as interim Executive Director from December 1 2011. Mr Bal will steer the EMSA ship until the ED takes over the helm, expected in mid 2012.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW ON MARINE POLLUTION: AERIAL SURVEILLANCE TRAINING

On 21-23 November 2011, EMSA played host to a training course on 'The use of surveillance systems for marine pollution detection and assessment – Operational Aspects'. The course was organised by the (tongue-twistingly named) [CTG MPPR](#), or 'Consultative Technical Group for Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response'. 42 participants from 21 countries attended, most of whom were aerial surveillance operators. Presentations and exercises covered: assessing volumes of oil, completing pollution reporting forms, and types of remote sensing equipment. Training was delivered by nine external Member States experts, plus EMSA staff.

NEW OIL SPILL RESPONSE VESSELS IN THE BLACK AND BALTIC SEAS, AND THE MED



From left: Enterprise (Varna, Bulgaria), Monte Anaga (Algeciras, Spain), Balluta Bay (Valletta, Malta) and OW Copenhagen (Copenhagen, Denmark).

On November 8 the Agency rearranged its [network of stand-by oil spill response vessels](#) by finalising tenders for the Black Sea, Baltic and Mediterranean Sea. Mostly replacing previous contracts, EMSA contracted three new bunker tankers to its network, located in Copenhagen (Denmark), Valletta (Malta) and Algeciras (Spain), plus one offshore supply vessel in Varna (Bulgaria). All vessels will be pre-fitted and equipped for oil spill recovery activities and are expected to enter into operational service during in the first half of 2012. EMSA has also improved its network by providing a new set of sweeping arms to vessels based in Cobh (Ireland) and a new high-capacity skimmer to the Piraeus (Greece)-based vessel Aktea OSRV.

11 NOVEMBER MARITIME CONFERENCE: NOW ON YOUTUBE



Over 200 participants, including many VIPs of the global shipping industry, attended a major [maritime conference](#) held at EMSA on November 11. The conference in particular gave current EMSA Executive Director an opportunity to summarise EMSA's development over the past decade. And for the first time, EMSA has published videos of the presentations on its YouTube account. The presentations are as follows:

- 'Safe and clean shipping - a regional contribution to a global issue' Mr Efthimios Mitropoulos - Secretary General of IMO
- 'The evolution of EMSA's tasks, the point of view of the Council of the European Union': Mrs Anna Wypych-Namiołko - Secretary of State, Ministry of Infrastructure, Poland; Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- 'The evolution of EMSA's tasks, the point of view of the European Parliament': Mr Knut Fleckenstein - Member of the European Parliament and rapporteur for the TRAN Committee
- 'Maritime safety: The point of view of industry': Mr Juan Riva – President of ECSA (European Community Shipowners' Associations)
- Mr Pavel Shikhov – Chairman of IACS (International Association of Classification Societies)
- 'Safe and clean shipping - will we make a difference?': Mr Willem de Ruiter – EMSA Executive Director

EMSA WISHES SEASON'S GREETINGS 2011 TO ALL OUR STAKEHOLDERS!

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Careers: National Expert Professional Trainees (NEPTs) 2012; Traineeships 2012

Procurement: Internet, fixed telephony services and mobile communications

Communications: Maritime Conference - Lisbon 11 November 2011