

NEW BOARD CHAIRMAN ELECTED



Mr. Jørgen Hammer Hansen, new Chairman (left), Mr. Willem de Ruyter, Executive Director and Mr. Serghios Serghiou, Vice-Chairman.

On 20/21st November, the EMSA [Administrative Board](#), thanks to the Portuguese Board Member and the Port Authority of Lisbon, met for the first time at the Agency's new permanent headquarters in the centre of Lisbon. The occasion also marked the election of Jørgen Hammer Hansen as the new Chairman of the Board and Serghios Serghiou as Vice-Chairman. Mr Hammer Hansen is currently Director General of the Danish Maritime Authority and Mr Serghiou is Director of the Cypriot Department of Merchant Shipping. EMSA Executive Director Willem de Ruyter took the opportunity to thank Brian Wadsworth and Francis Vallat (previous Chairman and Vice-Chairman) for their invaluable contributions to the Agency's first six years of development. The Board also approved the EMSA work programme, budget and establishment plan for 2009 and the financial statement for 2007. The other main agenda items were the progress made on setting up the EU LRIT Data centre, the latest developments relating to the CleanSeaNet satellite monitoring system and the stand-by oil recovery vessel network.

THREE NEW ANTI-POLLUTION VESSELS



The supply vessel *GSP Orion* will cover the Black Sea.

On 17th November, EMSA made an important step in strengthening its network of [contracted oil pollution recovery](#) (OPR) vessels by finalising tenders for the Black Sea and North Sea. Under the new agreement, Romanian ship owner Grup Servicii Petroliere will cover the Black Sea using the Constanta based

offshore supply vessel *Orion*, and Belgian company DC Industrial will cover the North Sea with the hopper dredgers *DC Vlaanderen 3000* and *Interballast III*, which are based in Ostend. The vessels are contracted for the three next years.

EU LRIT DATA CENTRE CONTRACTED

On 6th November, EMSA signed contracts for the development of the EU Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) Data Centre. The centre will form an important part of a global network of LRIT data centres which will enable commercial vessels to be monitored by satellite wherever they are. This will provide an important contribution to maritime safety.

CLEANSEANET HELPS IN THE BLACK SEA



ENVISAT image of Black Sea oil spill.

On 3rd November, as part of its planned monitoring, the CleanSeaNet service notified the Romanian maritime authorities of the existence of a potential 20 km spill off the coast. In reaction to the alert, the authorities carried out the necessary checks, confirmed the oil slick and identified the polluting vessel (the Turkish flagged general cargo ship *Guzide-S*), which was berthed at the Danube port of Galati at the time. The harbour master subsequently imposed a fine for accidental pollution, European which is reported to have been caused by a leaking engine room bilge valve.

- Current EMSA open calls to tender can be seen at: [Tenders](#)
- Current EMSA vacancies can be seen at: [Recruitment](#)

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