

## ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION NETWORK TO EXTEND COOPERATION INTO NEW AREAS

The 5<sup>th</sup> Permanent Cooperation Framework meeting of EU member state accident investigation bodies took place on 2-4 June. The 24 delegations agreed on the requirements for interim investigation reports and the management of early alerts while work continued on harmonised training and qualification of marine investigators and the investigation of occupational accidents. At the request of members, new issues were introduced including the promotion of safety recommendations and the implementation status of the [Directive 2009/18/EC](#). EMSA is the secretariat of this cooperation framework and represents the European Commission in its working groups.



## RECOGNISED ORGANISATION INSPECTIONS COME UNDER REVIEW

On 15 June, the European Commission's directorate general for mobility and transport held a workshop to discuss the implementation of Regulation EC No 391/2009. The workshop gathered representatives from each Recognised Organisation (RO), the quality assessment body QACE, and EMSA. Collectively, the participants looked at common issues resulting from [RO inspections and assessments](#). This was also the occasion to review progress on the implementation of key provisions of Regulation 391/2009/EC. Transparency, quality thinking and pro-active engagement of RO have been the key drivers for this workshop. EMSA prepared and presented a horizontal analysis of the European Commission assessments, highlighting several areas for further improvement. These included the performance of surveys and ISM audits for ships in service, as well as the performance of surveys of new building projects, and the quality of reporting, record keeping and monitoring activities by RO. The RO commended the quality of the analysis and engaged in an active discussion on root causes, identification of best practices and reflected on residual risks. In this way, the value of the workshop was recognised and it clearly achieved its intended effect.



## FULL BACKING FOR EXTENDED EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING FORUM MANDATE

The 4<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the European Sustainable Shipping Forum (ESSF) was held at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels on 16 June. The proposal to extend the mandate of the ESSF and its related subgroups for another two and a half years was endorsed. Two new sub-groups were also set up to assist in the implementation of the Monitoring Reporting and Verification Regulation. The value of EMSA as technical advisor to the subgroups was widely recognised, as was the support given in the implementation of the revised Sulphur Directive through THETIS-S and the guidelines for sulphur inspectors. Also appreciated were the submissions to IMO in the areas of scrubber technology and the use of [LNG as a fuel](#). EMSA presented to the plenary its work within the framework of the ESSF and laid out the future planned actions (PRF guidelines, emission inventories, development of EU MRV).



## OIL SPILL SCENARIO PUTS GREEK RESPONSE SYSTEM AND OPERATIONAL COORDINATION TO THE TEST

On 3 June, EMSA contracted vessels Aktea OSRV and Aegis I participated in the joint at-sea pollution response exercise, TRITON 2015. The exercise scenario addressed the response to a large spill of heavy fuel oil from an oil tanker following collision when berthing at the facilities of Hellenic Petroleum S.A. in the Gulf of Elefsina (Greece). The aim of this joint exercise was to test the Greek national response system and to strengthen operational coordination between the Hellenic Coast Guard, the Hellenic Petroleum S.A. and EMSA. Accordingly, the Greek authorities implemented the National Contingency Plan as well as the procedure for requesting international assistance, namely EMSA, through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. A total of six antipollution vessels were deployed for the at-sea exercise: Aktea OSRV and Aegis I (EMSA), PLS 413 and PLS 420 (Hellenic Coast Guard), and Aktea 4 and Aella (Hellenic Petroleum S.A.). Response operations were supported by four patrol boats and guided by one surveillance helicopter from the Hellenic Coast Guard. It is worth noting that during the execution of the exercise, different response options and techniques (i.e. chemical dispersion and mechanical recovery) were demonstrated.





EMSA's presence at the Blue Business Forum provided the opportunity to engage with visitors and to share our role in facilitating blue growth

## BLUE WEEK: EMSA JOINS ENVIRONMENT AND FISHERIES AGENCIES AT BLUE BUSINESS FORUM

At the invitation of Portugal's ministry of agriculture and sea, EMSA took part in the Blue Business Forum from 4 to 6 June in the Feira Internacional de Lisboa. This event—held alongside the World Ocean Summit (3-5 June) and Ministerial Meeting (5 June)—gave participants the possibility to explore the business opportunities that blue growth presents as well as to discover R&D projects supporting environmental sustainability. EMSA manned a joint stand with the European Environment Agency, the European Fisheries Control Agency and the European Commission.

## EMSA WELCOMES VISIT FROM GREEK COMMISSIONER FOR MIGRATION, HOME AFFAIRS AND CITIZENSHIP

Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos took the opportunity while in Lisbon on 4 June for the launch of the EMCDDA's 20<sup>th</sup> report on the state of the drugs problem in Europe to visit EMSA. Commissioner Avramopoulos was given a tour of the Maritime Support Services centre where EMSA's monitoring capabilities were clearly demonstrated. These capabilities have particular relevance for the Commissioner as they are being used to provide support to Frontex, the European external border control agency, for the monitoring of maritime borders in view of the current situation of illegal migrants in the Mediterranean Sea.



## BLUE WEEK: SUMMIT BRINGS INFLUX OF HIGH LEVEL VISITORS TO EMSA

As more than 350 government ministers, business leaders, and environmentalists convened in Lisbon for the events comprising Blue Week, EMSA received a steady stream of high level officials. On what was World Environment Day (5 June), ministers attending the ministerial meeting reaffirmed their commitment to the blue economy in its many dimensions including conservation of marine resources and ecosystems.



EMSA Executive Director welcomes Indonesian Minister for Maritime Affairs Indroyono Soesilo (left) and Yohei Matsumoto, Japan's Parliamentary Vice Minister of the Cabinet Office (right)



EMSA Executive Director meets Joe Mizzi, Malta's Minister for Transport and Infrastructure (left) and Bart Tommelein, Belgium's Secretary of State for North Sea Affairs (right)

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**CAREERS:** EMSA traineeship scheme - Autumn session 2015 (deadline: 20/07/2015) / National Experts in Professional Training - Autumn session 2015 (deadline: 22/07/2015)

**PROCUREMENT:** Purchase of multifunctional devices, printers and their associated maintenance (deadline: 13/07/2015) / IT Consultancy Services (deadline: 11/09/2015)