

OIL SPILL RESPONSE EXERCISE HELD IN MOROCCO

On 25-27 April under the framework of the [SafeMed III project](#), EMSA took part in an oil spill simulation exercise off the coast of Nador (Morocco). The oil spill exercise, named Simulex, is designed to reinforce cooperation and coordination between the military and civilian counterparts involved in maritime, air and land operations. EMSA's involvement – with the standby [oil spill response vessel](#), Monte Anaga – was the first of its kind with Morocco to encourage cooperation on a regional level. Representatives from EMSA as well as from other SafeMed III beneficiary countries (namely, Algeria, Lebanon and Tunisia) were able to follow the action from a Royal Navy observer vessel. This was an opportunity to demonstrate the oil spill response capacities of EMSA's vessels and to familiarise the local authorities with the existing request mechanism as well as with the other oil spill detection and response services that are available to SafeMed III countries through EMSA.



28TH EQUASIS EDITORIAL BOARD MEETS IN LISBON

On 26 April, EMSA hosted the 28th Equasis editorial board meeting. The meeting drew in a broad range of maritime cluster representatives with a key role in providing data to [Equasis](#): maritime associations, classification societies, international organisations, private companies and port state control regimes. The meeting covered Equasis' 5-year strategy, the updating of the data providers accreditation procedure, the evaluation of new applications from data providers and a workshop to discuss Equasis' new web layout.



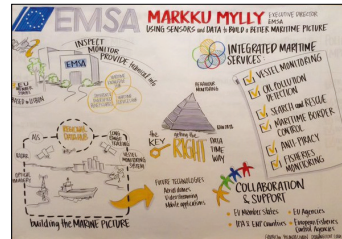
EMSA DELEGATION HEADS TO ROME

An EMSA delegation led by Markku Mylly met the Italian Coast Guard (ICG) in Rome on 28 April. Welcomed by the Commandant of the ICG, Vice Admiral Melone, the delegation had the opportunity to discuss areas of mutual interest with particular emphasis on strengthening cooperation between countries around the Mediterranean Sea. The visit included a tour in the ICG operational centre (MRCC) which is currently handling several daily SAR operations linked to the migration crisis in the Mediterranean Sea.



SEMINAR IN VANCOUVER LOOKS AT BETTER DECISION-MAKING VIA MARITIME TRAFFIC MONITORING & MODELLING

MEOPAR, Clear Seas and exactEarth hosted an interactive workshop on how advances in maritime traffic monitoring and modelling can directly improve marine safety best practices, emergency response and cross-jurisdictional collaboration on 11-12 April in Vancouver, Canada. EMSA's



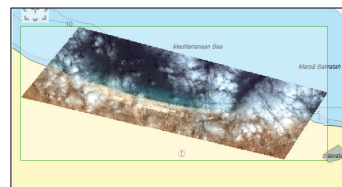
Canadian artist Yolanda Liman's view of EMSA

Executive Director, Markku Mylly gave a presentation on action at European level, explaining EMSA's own monitoring systems and the benefits of exchanging information between different government authorities. The European Union's maritime policy relies strongly on

the effective integration of maritime information. This two-day workshop offered the chance to share best practices in monitoring, modelling, pooling resources, government and community engagement, and to better understand the role of these activities in policy-making.

OPTICAL IMAGES TO BRING INCREASED SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES

EMSA recently established framework contracts with Airbus-DS and EUSI for the provision of optical images from 12 different satellites. The Agency's satellite sensor portfolio has been strengthened considerably across all types of image characteristics, particularly with respect to the number of satellites with very high resolution capabilities and fast ('near real time') delivery. The service provides worldwide coverage, and will include value added products tailored for maritime applications, including targeted vessel detection, activity detection and change detection. Images can be obtained at short notice (24/7 service) and advanced planning methods, such as pinpointing of targets, will also be possible. The service will be used by member states and EU bodies (e.g. Frontex, EFCA, EUNAVFOR), and will support the Copernicus



Security Service for Maritime Surveillance. The first of the new optical services was completely integrated into EMSA's Earth Observation Data Centre on 19 April 2016.

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CAREERS: National Experts in Professional Training (deadline: 31/5/2016) Protect Officer for RPAS (deadline: 31/5/2016); Traineeship autumn session (deadline: 31/5/2016); Communication Officer (deadline: 10/5/2015)

PROCUREMENT: Contracts for Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) services in the maritime environment (deadline: 6/6/2016); Provision of maritime surveillance services from TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X/PAZ (deadline: 31/5/2016); Contract for SAT-AIS data services (deadline: 27/5/2016); Provision of study on cost-effectiveness and efficiency of EMSA's oil pollution response services (deadline: 20/5/2016)