

EMSA PUBLISHES GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON LNG BUNKERING FOR PORTS

The [guidance document](#) was prepared in close cooperation with the European Commission (DG MOVE), member states and industry within the context of the European Sustainable Shipping Forum. It aims to support port authorities and administrations backing the use of LNG as a ship fuel, as part of a joint effort to increase safety and sustainability. Significant contributions were made by Rotterdam and Zeebrugge port authorities which have gained much experience in LNG bunkering recently due to rapid industry developments. In particular, the guidance offers a number of recommendations in areas considered by all to be a challenge. These areas include: permitting, simultaneous operations (SIMOPS); safety distances; and, the applicable regulatory framework. The good practice recommendations are designed to assist ports in the evaluation and support of LNG bunkering projects and operations.

WORKSHOP OFFERS AGENCY SUPPORT TO MEMBER STATES AS FLAG STATES

EMSA held a workshop on 30-31 January on support for member states in their capacity as Flag States. The workshop was held within the framework of ongoing capacity building initiatives. Representatives from 24 member states and the European Commission were present. Proposals for possible activities to be undertaken by EMSA were warmly welcomed in view of the added value they could bring to member states. It was agreed that EMSA would take forward: the development of voluntary training for Flag State surveyors and inspectors (III Code); the concept of a dynamic web portal; and, the combining and compilation of data from various sources to support the member states.



EMSA ON MISSION TO LEBANON

On 22-25 January, EMSA and an experienced IMO auditor carried out a preparatory audit in Lebanon in light of the country's upcoming IMO audit in July 2018. The IMO Member States Audit Scheme (IMSAS) is designed to determine the extent to which those parties audited fulfil their obligations and responsibilities as set out in key IMO treaty instruments. EMSA's intervention took place in the framework of the SAFEMED IV technical assistance project for non-EU countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. The preparatory audit was held at the Directorate General for Land and Maritime Transport in Beirut (DGLMT). The auditing team took the opportunity to visit the premises and meet staff from other authorities and private organisations with a role in Lebanon's Flag, Port and Coastal State organisation. There was a very positive dialogue between the auditors and auditees. The Lebanese authorities' open approach to the preparatory audit enabled them to receive very useful feedback in good time for the IMO's forthcoming audit.



JOINT FRENCH-PORTUGUESE DELEGATION VISITS EMSA

On 6 February, EMSA received a visit from a joint delegation led by France's Minister of European Affairs, Nathalie Loiseau and her Portuguese counterpart, Ana Paula Zacarias. The delegation were given an introduction to EMSA's maritime monitoring and information activities from the perspective of the Maritime Support Services operations room. They also had the opportunity to meet the Agency's French and Portuguese staff members.

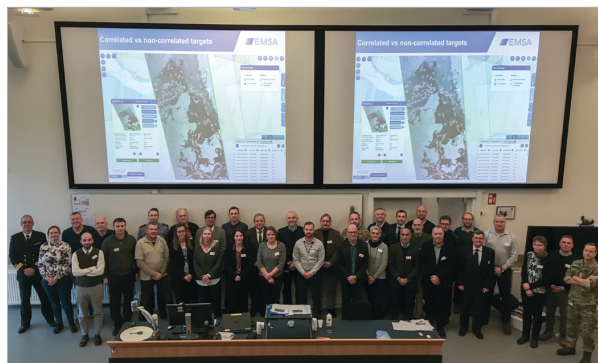


Ana Paula Zacarias, Nathalie Loiseau and French Ambassador Jean-Michel Casa



OFFERING INSIGHT INTO EMSA'S MARITIME INFORMATION SERVICES

On 23-24 January, EMSA took up an invitation from Denmark to attend a national information session to raise awareness of two of the agency's evolving services – [Integrated Maritime Services \(IMS\)](#) and [Copernicus Maritime Surveillance \(CMS\)](#) services. Organised by the Danish Joint Defence Command, the two-day event brought together more than 40 attendees representing 15 different national authorities, all with an interest and/or a responsibility in the maritime domain. The event proved to be a very successful outreach initiative, with several authorities voicing their interest in making use of IMS and CMS services. The added value of having services bringing together a variety of different data sources, enhancing national and regional cooperation and complementing existing data information systems was underlined by the participants.



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PUBLICATIONS: Guidance on LNG Bunkering to Port Authorities and Administrations; Automatic Detection and Alert Triggering of Ship Behaviour; Single Programming Document 2018-2020

VACANCIES: Reserve list for a Maritime Support Services Officer with IT background (FGIV) (deadline: 9/2/2018)

PROCUREMENT: Expressions of interest for an external database of experts (deadline: 19/12/2020)