



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 15.10.2009  
SEC(2009) 1341 final

**COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT  
EU led actions relevant for the integration of maritime surveillance activities**

**Accompanying document to the**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL, THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

**Towards the integration of maritime surveillance:**

**A common information sharing environment for the EU maritime domain**

{COM(2009) 538}

## COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

### EU led actions relevant for the integration of maritime surveillance activities

The Commission's Communication "Towards the integration of maritime surveillance: A common information sharing environment for the EU maritime domain" of 14 October 2009<sup>1</sup> sets out *guiding principles* enabling the various sectoral maritime surveillance and monitoring initiatives to converge towards the establishment of a *Common Information sharing Environment*.

The purpose of the present Commission Staff Working Document complementing the Communication is to provide the latest state of play and a brief description of Commission initiatives and projects supported by the Commission which are relevant for the integration of maritime surveillance

Action	Objective	Timing
Preparatory action - Automatic Identification System (AIS) from space	Preparatory action to assess the effectiveness of space-based receivers in picking up AIS signals in collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA).	December 2008 - October 2010
Implementation of Directive 2002/59 as amended by Directive 2009/17	VTMIS will regulate the national, regional, intra community and international provision of and cooperation between all authorities operational services and other entities responsible for or involved in maritime safety, port and maritime security, protection of the marine environment, the efficiency of maritime traffic and maritime transport and some customs requirements (T2M, the proof of Community status for products of sea-fishing and other products taken from the sea by Community vessels).  Developing the existing technical support system SafeSeaNet (SSN) is an important step in the VTMIS implementation process.	2009-2016
E-maritime	A broad and embracing initiative in the maritime transport sector aimed at facilitating and supporting the development and take up of the latest enabling ICT technologies for the improvement of maritime transport services as part of the integrated EU transport system.	2009 - 2018

---

<sup>1</sup> COM (2009) XXX final

<p>Pilot Project on support for surveillance and protection measures for Community vessels sailing through areas where piracy is a threat</p>	<p>Aims to develop and test measures that could contribute towards better maritime awareness and protection for Community vessels in areas threatened by piracy. The Horn of Africa and the Gulf of Aden will be particularly targeted. Measures will be based on increased maritime awareness, communication, cooperation and threat analysis.</p>	<p>2010 - December 2011</p>
<p>Critical Maritime Routes programme (I)</p>	<p>The overall objective is to contribute to the security and safety of navigation of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore and of the Gulf of Aden and Bab El Mandeb Straits.</p>	<p>2010 - 2012</p>
<p>Global Monitoring for the Environment and Security (GMES)</p>	<p>GMES is financing with ESA the development of satellites that could provide data relevant to maritime aspects. Two GMES-Security working groups on border surveillance and EU external action were set up for which synergies between defence and civil applications are highly sought.</p>	<p>The first satellites are expected for launch in 2011-12. Operational services are expected to be available from 2014. The results of working groups are expected to be available in 2009-10.</p>
<p>European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR)</p>	<p>EUROSUR will provide a common technical framework to support Member States' authorities in reaching full situational awareness at the southern and eastern EU external borders and increase the reaction capability of their border control authorities. A decentralised system of (existing) systems will be established gradually in three phases, which, in brief, consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reinforcing the border surveillance capacity of Member States, and fostering cooperation between them;</li> <li>- Developing new tools and concepts at EU level to be put at the disposal of the Member States; and</li> <li>- Integrating the needs and tools of all aspects of maritime surveillance in one common information sharing environment along the lines set out in this Communication.</li> </ul>	<p>Development and implementation phase 2008 - 2015</p>

<p>Draft Fisheries Control Regulation – COM (2008) 721 final</p>	<p>Article 12 of the proposal aims at enabling VMS, AIS and VDS data collected in the framework of this Regulation to be transmitted to Commission agencies and other public authorities of the Member States engaged in surveillance operations for the purpose of maritime safety and security, border control, protection of the marine environment and general law enforcement. New Art 17g of the proposal aims at contributing to the implementation of the EU maritime policy enabling the CFCA to contribute to the integrated maritime policy.</p>	<p>Expected timing of adoption: October 2009</p>
<p>Pilot project on the exchange of radar-VTS information through SafeSeaNet</p>	<p>Ongoing in the Western Mediterranean. It is led by EMSA with participation from Spain, France and Italy as well as in cooperation with Frontex and CFCA, aiming to exchange radar-VTS information through SafeSeaNet using SSN as a platform upon which AIS and RADAR data are merged, and to seek synergies between the fishing monitoring system (VMS) and SSN.</p>	<p>Implementation expected to start 1st semester 2010</p>
<p>Pilot project on "Monitoring and Information Systems for Reducing Oil Pollution in the Black Sea"</p>	<p>The project should enable the coastal states to better prevent and respond to operational/accidental/illegal oil pollution. Within this long term policy approach, and in support of decision making towards reduction/elimination of oil pollution in the Black Sea, the project will pursue the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved information system for combating oil pollution, fostering oil-related information exchange</li> <li>- Enhanced monitoring system of operational and accidental pollution,</li> <li>- Capacity building for enhanced response capabilities, including risk management and emergency preparedness planning</li> </ul>	<p>Objectives by the end 2010</p>

## Glossary and abbreviations in the context of Integrated Maritime Surveillance

<b>AIS</b>	Automatic Identification System. A ship borne mechanism that automatically provides for the exchange of information between ships as well as the provision of such data to coastal stations. Information includes identification, position, speed course and certain other items about the ship and its cargo.
<b>BSBC</b>	Black Sea Border Cooperation. Agreement on cooperation between the Border and Coast Guard authorities of the Black Sea littoral States.
<b>BSRBCC</b>	<a href="#"><u>Baltic Sea Region Border Control Cooperation</u></a> . A regional tool for daily inter-agency (Police, Customs and Border authorities) interaction to combat cross-border crime and environmental protection of the maritime areas.
<b>CeCLAD-M</b>	Centre de Coordination pour la Lutte Anti-Drogue en Méditerranée. This anti-narcotics law enforcement initiative to curb drug smuggling in the Western Mediterranean Sea was launched under the French Presidency in 2008. CeCLAD-M, which is opened to all EU Member States and North African countries in the region, opted for bilateral intelligence sharing to combat narcotics trafficking.
<b>CleanSeaNet</b>	A satellite based monitoring system for marine oil spill detection and surveillance in European waters provided by the European Maritime Safety Agency.
<b>COP</b>	Common operational picture
<b>EDA</b>	European Defense Agency
<b>EEA</b>	European Environment Agency
<b>EMSA</b>	European Maritime Safety Agency
<b>ESA</b>	European Space Agency
<b>EUROSUR</b>	European Border Surveillance System. It will be built as a "system of (existing) systems", aiming to assist Member States achieve full awareness of the situation at their external borders, especially at the southern and eastern EU external borders, and enhancing the reaction capability of their law enforcement services.
<b>FRONTEX</b>	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
<b>GMES</b>	Global Monitoring for the Environment and Security. GMES will be the European programme implementing an Earth observation service system with satellites, sensors on the ground, floating in the water or flying through the air to monitor our planet's environment and to support the security of citizens.

<b>LRIT</b>	Long Range Identification and Tracking (of Ships). Long range vessel monitoring system introduced by the International Maritime Organisation in 2006, requiring the periodic transmission of the identity and position of vessels. Transmissions are via satellite to LRIT Data Centres. Only the flag state, plus the contracting (port) state of the ship's destination and the coastal state within a distance not exceeding 1000 n.m. of its coast have access to the data.
<b>MAOC-N</b>	Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics. Law enforcement supported military intelligence-led platform, based in Lisbon, which coordinates anti-narcotics operations in the eastern Atlantic Ocean from Iceland to the Cape of Good Hope. Law enforcement agencies from 7 Member States have set up this voluntary information exchange system in order to get an intelligence picture targeting vessels involved in narcotics trafficking
<b>MSSIS</b>	Maritime Safety and Security Information System (NATO). Based around the acquisition and analysis of AIS data, gathered from the AIS systems of NATO Member States. From the MSSIS the data is fed into NATO's Maritime Command and Control Information System (MCCIS), which is classified and includes also intelligence and classified surveillance data.
<b>PT MARSUR</b>	European Defence Agency's "Project Team Maritime Surveillance". The basic objective is to explore the needs and requirement for a European Naval Surveillance System.
<b>Recognised Maritime Picture</b>	Terminology used by the defence community, equivalent to Maritime situational awareness.
<b>SafeSeaNet</b>	Community maritime information and exchange system. SafeSeaNet shall enable the receipt, storage, retrieval and exchange of information for the purpose of maritime safety, port and maritime security, marine environment protection and the efficiency of maritime traffic and maritime transport.
<b>SUCBAS</b>	Sea Surveillance Cooperation Baltic Sea. Sea surveillance information exchange and co-operation platform within the Baltic Sea area and its approaches. In March 2009 meeting in Helsinki, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Lithuania and Sweden signed the SUCBAS agreement. Latvia and Poland have asked for membership.
<b>T2M</b>	(Customs) document certifying the Community status of fisheries products.
<b>VDS</b>	Vessel Detection System. Council Regulation 1966/2006 foresees operational use of satellites in contexts where cost effectiveness can be proven, starting in January 2009. The Vessel Detection System relies on polar orbiting satellites carrying Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) instruments which can detect vessels at sea under most conditions – day and night and through cloud.
<b>VMS</b>	Vessel Monitoring System. In connection to the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy, EC legislation provides for the establishment and operation of a satellite-based VMS by each Member State, in order to

	monitor the position and movement of fishing vessels.
<b>VR-MTC</b>	Virtual Maritime Traffic Centre. Run by the Italian Navy, it is a virtual network connecting naval operational centres located in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. It is based on a specific Operational Agreement and provides EU and non-EU Navies with unclassified information about vessel movement in the area.
<b>VTM (IS)</b>	Vessel Traffic Monitoring (Information System). Established by Directive 2002/59/EC, as amended by Directive 2009/17/EC, on the establishment of a Community vessel traffic monitoring and information system.
<b>VTS</b>	Vessel Traffic Services. Shore based systems which range from the provision of information messages to the extensive management of maritime traffic.