



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA  
**MARITIME POLICY MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA**

Brussels, 9/9/2010  
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MARE MSEG – SURVEILLANCE 4

**Subject: Fourth meeting of the Commission's Member States Experts Sub-Group on the integration of maritime surveillance (MSEG), held in Albert Borchette on 12 July 2010.**

### Meeting Report

#### **1. Participation**

The meeting was chaired by Mrs Fabrizia Benini, Head of Unit MARE/D1. Attendance from Member States and EU institutions was high. Most MSs with interests in maritime affairs were represented, typically by two or three representatives from Transport, Defence and Interior Ministries or their Permanent Representations. The European Defence Agency, the Wise Pen Team, Europol, FRONTEX, EMSA, CFCA, and the Commission's services - DGs HOME (co-chair), MOVE, ENTR, INFSO and JRC were also represented in the meeting.

#### **2. Meeting purpose**

The meeting's purpose was to continue and finalise the MS Experts input initiated during the second MSEG meeting of 21 April 2010, on the text of a draft Roadmap towards the Common Information Sharing Environment for the EU maritime domain, on the basis of a revised *discussion paper* outlining such a draft Roadmap. The revised paper has been agreed within the Commission's Interservice Sub-Group on maritime surveillance, taking into account MS comments on the previous drafts presented and discussed within the MSEG on 21 April and 16 June 2010.

It is recalled that during the above meetings, all Member States had expressed their overall support to the step-by-step approach outlined in the discussion paper but there were substantive requests for modifications. The main contentious issue have been how the surveillance pilot projects should influence the Roadmap both in terms of technical architecture and approach. Discussions have also been lively on the composition of the Technical Advisory group (still to be set up under the

Administrative Agreement between MARE and the Joint Research Center) and how it could provide input to the Roadmap. To facilitate discussions on this latter issue, a non paper explaining the role of the Technical Advisory Group ('TAG') had been circulated by DG MARE.

The afternoon session was dedicated to the presentation of the progress accomplished to date of the two Pilot projects, BluemassMed and Marsuno

### **3. Discussion and Main outcome**

The discussion was based on a text to which several MS had provided written comments. All submissions converged in the same direction except that of Italy. During the discussions this rift was confirmed. In particular, Italy reacted negatively to the Commission's non paper on the Technical Advisory Group, (as a provider of technical advise to the Experts as foreseen by the forthcoming AA MARE/JRC), in an effort to ensure the strongest possible influence of the Pilot projects, both in terms of system's technical architecture and the role of Member States versus that of EU Agencies. Discussions were also lively as regards the composition of the TAG, with France drawing the attention to the need to ensure the proper representation of the Custom community (in absence of a European Custom Agency) and the need to broaden the representation of the Law Enforcement community beyond Europol.

The consultation of the Member States Experts Sub-group on the integration of maritime surveillance on the draft roadmap was concluded in this 4th meeting of the group. The input provided by the Experts to the Commission is now sufficient for a draft Communication to be finalised and submitted to interservice consultation. It was once more unanimously confirmed that the Roadmap for the establishment of a Common Information Sharing Environment should be set up as a decentralised system, interlinking all User Communities. The process needs to reflect a step by step approach, whereby the lessons learnt from the pilot projects end 2011 will be taken into account especially as concerns the final choice of the supporting technical framework. With the exception of Italy, Member States are unanimous in requesting that the momentum to achieve the CISE be kept.

The Belgian Presidency indicated that it will take up discussions on this issue in the Friends of the Presidency in response to the forthcoming Commission's Communication.

### **4. Follow-up**

1. The draft roadmap will be turned into a draft Communication to be submitted for approval of management and cabinet prior to launching the Interservice consultation (already launched in 27 July).
2. A request should be sent to the DGs heading the different User Communities to launch their internal processes for appointment of their representatives in the TAG

3. The Draft Administrative Agreement between MARE and the JRC can be circulated for final approval of Management and then be put into effect after its signature by both parties in September 2010.

*[signed]*  
Christos Kontorouchas

Visa

Fabrizia Benini  
Head of Unit

**Enclosure: List of participants (those who signed the list)**