



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES  
MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA

Brussels,

MARE MSEG-SURVEILLANCE 7

**Subject: Seventh meeting of the Commission's Member State Expert subGroup (MSEsG) on the integration of maritime surveillance of 5-6 June 2012.**

### Meeting Report

The seventh meeting of the MSEsG was attended by Member States, by TAG members and Commission services.

#### CISE Progress report:

Member States generally welcomed the report. Several comments were received according to which:

- The Commission should now focus on the 'functional' aspects of CISE to which the pilot projects 'MARSUNO' and 'BluemassMed' contributed. The work of both projects should be included in the further work to come (NL, UK, DE, FR);
- CISE should go beyond simple data 'sharing' to allow for data 'fusion' and 'analysis' at several levels, to *in fine* foster sustainable blue growth at all levels of IMP (PT, IT).
- There remains a real need for 'coordination' of the many various sectorial actions taken at EU and national level (NL, IT, DE, SP);
- Synchronising legislation across sectors and borders will remain a challenge (IT, UK);
- Legal questions linked to information ownership will have to be resolved if in particular cross-sectorial information exchange is to become a reality (UK)
- Assessing in particular the economic impact of CISE on maritime affairs is important but will not be easy (UK)
- The Commission should continue using and maintaining the political momentum to building up CISE (SP)

- If CISE is to become an EU wide reality, Member States need to organize themselves correspondingly at national level (FI)
- Combining the civilian and military communities remains a challenge (SP, F)
- The step by step approach taken by the Commission remains valid (FI, D)
- Developing a CISE 'phone book' to facilitate contacts between operators is an interesting idea that may be equally helpful in the preparatory phase as in the operational phase of CISE (F)

The Commission indicated that the progress report reflects various CISE roadmap steps tackled in parallel as suggested by MSEsG. Further work will be carried out through the Impact Assessment studies and through the planned cooperation and FP7 projects that are designed to focus on the functional aspects of CISE. The Commission took note of the increasing feed-back by MS that CISE should go beyond 'simple' data exchange to turn into an intelligent tool allowing for better knowledge based maritime governance.

#### Cooperation & FP7 projects:

The Commission presented the concept of both projects ('cooperation' and 'FP7'). Even though they constitute logical and subsequent steps towards building up the functional aspects of CISE both at national and EU level, they nevertheless have a different focus.

The cooperation project (to start in 2013 for a one year period; call for proposal: July-October 2012) is to define *common functional CISE aspects* such as the definition and purpose of the data exchange by each MS to evaluate needs and access rights. Based on the results of MARSUNO and BluemassMed, this requires a neutral approach to satisfy all MS and sectors. Such neutral approach should be best responded to by the cooperation project specifically designed for it. The cooperation project is thus not about a research/industry solution nor about technical validation of services, but will deliver common CISE features – such as common 'use cases' and 'semantics' – as input to the FP7 work. The Cooperation project is financed out of the money allocated by the Financial Regulation covering IMP matters.

The FP7 project (to start in 2014 and end in 2016) has a different focus. It is designed to satisfy the various *specific decentralised needs of MS and their authorities* which may even invite industrial players at decentralised level to help out. The FP7 is meant to provide *co-financing* to participating MS for *developing/implementing, testing and validating functional CISE-features* at EU and national level. The FP7 project will therefore benefit from the cooperation project work and will be able to move faster into technical implementation whilst certainly also needing a preparatory phase. Even though FP7 is not designed for military purposes, due to the particular nature of the subject navies may participate in this particular call. This project is to be financed by the FP7 research fund.

The Commission recalled that it is essential for all MS wishing to participate in both projects to provide **one common offer per project, each preferably covering all EU sea basins** as only one offer can be accepted by the Commission. Parallel offers by different groups of Member States would thus have the adverse effect of excluding certain Member States from the projects whereas CISE needs all Member States to cooperate EU wide. Indeed it is now the time to bring all preparatory efforts together in view of establishing CISE.

Even though the calls run in parallel (which is due to the different funding mechanism but at the same time it allows synchronization) the cooperation project is to be carried out during 2013 and the FP7 during 2014 to 2016. Both projects will be prepared and accompanied by TAG.

The following comments were received:

- Some MS pointed towards the administrative burden of and coherence questions between two separate projects and towards the need for strong MS involvement (F, NL, UK)
- The projects should first focus on maritime functionalities. The adequate technologies to carry out those functionalities can certainly be developed thereafter (NL)
- The TAG defence member indicated that discussions on functionalities have started and will be used as input to both projects.

Presentation on MARSUNO results:

The presentation made by the Swedish Coast Guard ('SCG' - MARSUNO lead partner) of the project's final results received many compliments by MS who were impressed by the many suggestions. It confirmed that maritime actors would work better together now.

The SCG further answered to MS questions in the following way:

- Even though SafeSeaNet is a very competent tool it cannot constitute CISE on its own, as suggested by Germany, since various sectors with corresponding systems need to be taken into account. 'Networking' between communities and their respective systems is the key concept.
- MARSUNO considered a decentralised approach and not a centralized one as suggested by Italy.
- A certain level of on-site inspections at sea will always be necessary in parallel to data gathering even if such data is quite reliable.

It was further suggested to hold a work shop on the results of both projects MARSUNO and BMM with a view to better disseminate their results (FR).

Presentation of the technical study intermediary results (by 'Deloitte'):

The Deloitte study has the scope of i.) identifying possible IT architectures based on the functional needs of CISE, ii.) identifying the existing IT landscape constituted by the various existing and planned maritime surveillance systems and initiatives (including 'MARSUNO' and 'BluemassMed'), and iii.) assessing which type of IT solutions may be most appropriate considering the existing IT landscape.

Deloitte's presentation essentially focused on the first point, the other two being under elaboration.

The presentation was well received and the following comments were provided by MS:

- The study should be more focused on innovative aspects such as cost effective innovative solutions for CISE that do not impose too much of a burden to MS while implementing them (PT)
- Legal aspects to data exchange should not be underestimated in particular as regards data ownership. In particular third countries will be critical in the way their data are handled within CISE. At national level this issue is essentially handled by a selective and smart approach to data handling. Data overload should be avoided by careful filtering of data channeled through CISE (UK, NL, IT, FR)
- It is positive that the study identifies functional requirements for CISE (NL, FR)
- On a question by D, the Commission indicated that the Deloitte study results should be available in September 2012.
- Maritime awareness requires data fusion and analysis such as suggested in the Deloitte presentation (in particular its 'problem statement n° 5') (IT)

*Presentation of Financial perspectives by Commission:*

In presenting the financial perspectives 2014-2020, the Commission underlined the need for flexibility as funds for CISE may be essentially required as from 2016 when CISE is meant to be implemented and as it is very difficult to predict what new challenges are to be taken into account in the near future.

Indeed, if, as certain MS have been increasingly indicating over past years, CISE should constitute the first step not only to simple 'data exchange' but also to 'data fusion' and 'analysis' leading to more 'coordinated actions' and in fine to better 'knowledge based governance' of the EU maritime domain, such new cooperative dimension of the Integrated maritime policy (IMP) needs to be reflected now in the forthcoming financial perspectives 2014-2020. It's a difficult call to assess possible costs while the project is following the established Roadmap.

MS provided the following comments:

- The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) constitutes, according to preliminary indications, only 0,6% of total EU funds and just 6% out of these 0.6% are dedicated to the IMP. The Articles 80 to 82 of the EMFF are thus critical for the future achievements of the IMP until 2020. In parallel, the CISE related impact assessment work to be started now should include wider IMP aspects such as those related to 'Marine knowledge' and 'Earth observation' (PT)
- There will be a first debate as regards the orientation to be given to the IMP part of the EMFF at the IMP Member State Expert Group (MSEG) on 22 June. This may also be an issue to be debated at the IMP High Level Focal Points (HLFP) group (NL)
- Financing IMP-IMS related satellite applications is a particular issue to be discussed (IT)

Impact Assessment studies:

The Commission presented an outline of the four planned studies to assess the impact of CISE on maritime affairs. It underlined the need for cooperation by Member States. This in particular as regards the legal study that will assess the potential need for modifying existing or establishing new horizontal or sectorial legislation as well as for the economic study that will have to evaluate the cost and benefits of CISE to the EU.

As in particular the cost elements linked to maritime surveillance are essentially held by Member States, it will be very difficult to carry out such economic assessment (as further requested by the External Relations Council in its meeting of 17.11.2009) without essential input from MS.

Various presentations by MS:

Presentations were made to give an overview of CISE-related activities and to exchange interesting best practices:

- Finland: *Baltic Sea Maritime Functionalities*
- France: *Best practices in national and regional cooperation*
- Norway: *The 'Barents Watch' project*
- Romania: *'Fulfilling the steps to achieve CISE in Romania and in the EU Black Sea'*
- Spain: *'ARCOPOL' – 'CETMAR'*
- The Netherlands: *Best practices in national and regional cooperation – the Dutch approach*
- *All presentations are available at the maritime Forum :*

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/content/2866>

(signed)

Beate GMINDER

Cc.:

- MSEsG members
- Mrs. L. Evans, Mrs M. Pariat, Mrs C. Montesi, Mr B. Friess, Mr S. Depypere, Mr E. Penas Lado, Mrs. V. Lainé, Mrs V. Veits, Mr H. Siemers, Mr M. King
- TAG members
- ISsG members

