

NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM MARKKU MYLLY

"This first newsletter of the year is an opportunity for me to offer my very best wishes for 2013 to you and your loved ones. A challenging year has begun with a series of new tasks on their way. Our revised mandate is expected to enter into force this month. As we look ahead, I would reassure stakeholders that EMSA is well placed to take on these upcoming challenges and I



am encouraging staff to approach this new year with confidence. With this, I wish you all a fruitful and happy 2013."

REVISED FOUNDING REGULATION OUT SOON

The European Parliament has backed a report on the revision of EMSA's founding regulation as prepared by rapporteur Knut Fleckenstein. The vote held on 11 December saw 582 ballots in favour of the proposed amendments, 63 against and 33 abstentions. This means the new text has been adopted by the EU Institutions and needs now only to be formally signed. This is expected in January and publication of the revised text to take place shortly thereafter.

ALL EYES ON LNG AS SHIPPING FUEL OF THE FUTURE

The third expert group meeting on LNG as a shipping fuel was held by DG MOVE and EMSA on 4 December. The expert group was set up in the context of the 2011 [Sustainable Waterborne Transport Toolbox](#) and aims to help the sector comply with the revised Sulphur Directive's emission limits. While the two previous meetings focused on identifying barriers which could potentially hamper the widespread use of LNG as a shipping fuel in the EU, this third meeting focused on the possibility of an EU framework for LNG bunkering. Member State representatives and some international partners were invited to this meeting, in addition to the various shipowner, port and gas industry participants. The participants commented on the preliminary results of EMSA's commissioned study on 'standards and rules for bunkering gas fuelled ships' which will all contribute towards a possible future regulatory framework on EU LNG bunkering.



More than 60 participants from Member States and industry attended the meeting

NEW TASKS FOR EMSA IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

EMSA has officially become the implementing body of the Commission's technical assistance project for the Mediterranean Sea in the area of maritime safety, security and pollution prevention. The beneficiary countries of the SAFEMED 3 project are: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria and Tunisia. This project will run between mid-2013 and mid-2016.



EMSA's technical assistance now reaches North African countries

The SAFEMED 3 project, which builds on the results of the previous two projects, has the overall objective of improving the protection of the Mediterranean Sea marine environment against the risk of accidents at sea and marine pollution. It will do this by supporting the ratification and implementation of international maritime safety and security conventions, as well as by improving the relevant capacities and level of quality of maritime administrations in the Mediterranean partner countries.

EMSA GETS FESTIVE AT DIPLOMATIC BAZAAR

EMSA took part in Lisbon's Diplomatic Bazaar fund-raising event on 23-24 November. Its stall brought in just under €1 000. Around 20 EMSA colleagues and their partners



Delfina Ribeiro, EMSA staff, and Anna-Liisa Mylly greet Mrs Cavaco Silva at EMSA stand

contributed to the stall which raised funds for local charities. The event, organised yearly by the Association of Portuguese Diplomat Families, began with a visit from the wife of the Portuguese President, Mrs Maria Cavaco Silva. While this year's overall figures are not yet available, the event raised approximately €74 000 last year. This was the first time EMSA has participated in the event but hopefully it will not be the last.

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Documents: [Technical Report - Discharge facilities for oil recovered at sea](#)

Careers: [National Experts in Professional Training \(NEPT\)](#), deadline: 11 January 2013