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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) - Action Plan

Delegations will find attached the text of the EUMSS Action Plan adopted today by the General Affairs Council (doc. 15658/14).

EU MARITIME SECURITY STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Introduction

This Action Plan puts the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS dated 24 June 2014) into practice. It is based upon the four following principles: cross sectoral approach, functional integrity, respect for rules and principles, and maritime multilateralism - including the decision-making autonomy of the EU - as defined by the European Union Maritime Security Strategy. These principles are enshrined in every measure detailed in the Action Plan. The Strategy brings together both internal and external aspects of the Union's maritime security and this Action Plan contains actions and sub-actions in each workstrand also to this end.

This is a rolling Action Plan, subject to a progress assessment and possible review. Regular reporting will be provided by the High Representative and the Commission on the basis of contributions of Member States.

The Action Plan respects Member States' and EU internal organisation and competences (regulated by national law) as well as their policies and legislation and builds on initiatives by Member States and relevant EU bodies and agencies. It is implemented by the EU and each Member State, taking into account on-going actions at national, EU and international level, within available resources without creating new structures or changing existing legal procedures.

Sectoral and cross-sectoral stakeholder consultations within Member States and at EU level should be part of the implementation of the Action Plan.

WORKSTRAND 1 : EXTERNAL ACTION

1.1. Work towards a coordinated approach on maritime security issues in international fora and with third countries. *(Delivery Horizon [1]: I/M)*

1.1.1. Develop strategic dialogue with relevant regional and international stakeholders and third countries on maritime security to sustain and further develop the promotion of rules-based governance at sea. [Lead Actors [2]: EEAS]

1.1.2. Identify areas of commonality and complementarity between the EU and the UN and its bodies to develop an improved partnership in the field of maritime security, with a view to the development of joint regional maritime capacity-building activities. [MS/EEAS]

1.1.3. Identify complementarity between the EU and NATO to ensure better coordination, and develop enhanced cooperative relations on relevant aspects of maritime security between the two organisations, in the context of CSDP.

On that basis, promote concrete EU and NATO complementary initiatives in the field of maritime security operations. This could also include co-ordinated programmes of EU and NATO maritime security exercises and training, in line with the EU exercise policy. [MS/EEAS]

1.1.4. Identify areas of commonality between the EU and regional fora, such as the African Union and sub-regional African organisations, the Union for the Mediterranean, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) as well as international organisations such as the IMO, ILO, INTERPOL and UNODC, seeking improved partnerships in the field of maritime security. [MS/COM [3]/EEAS]

1.1.5. Mainstream maritime security into bilateral meeting agendas with third countries, strategic dialogues, and international *fora*, where appropriate. [MS /COM/EEAS]

1.1.6. Encourage bilateral and regional agreements in the area of maritime security, improve coordination of existing ones and promote engagement and support between Member States and third countries, in order to enhance the security and stability of the maritime domain. [MS]

1.1.7. Promote the signature and ratification of the Agreement on illicit traffic by sea opened in Strasbourg on January 31, 1995, implementing art. 17 of the United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, opened for signature in Vienna on December 20, 1988, for the Member States and Third Countries of the Council of Europe. [MS/EEAS]

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[1]   I: Immediate (one year); M: Medium (one to three years); L: Long term (three to five years). This footnote applies to all references to "Delivery Horizon".

[2]   Within their competences and legal mandates. This footnote applies to all references to "Lead Actors".

[3]   European Commission, including EU regulatory agencies

1.1.8. Continue to ensure cooperation between services in charge of maritime transport and services in charge of Customs issues at EU level, as well as ensure consistency with regulations at international level. [MS/COM]

1.2. Enhance the visibility of the EU in the global maritime domain. *(I/M)*

1.2.1. Taking into account the EU's comprehensive approach, plan and conduct regular EU maritime security exercises with third countries and international/regional organisations, in the context of Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) operations and missions or EU exercises in adjacent sea basins and other areas of interest, in accordance with the EU exercise policy. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.2.2. Conduct maritime security related seminars, workshops and conferences with partner countries and International Organisations to facilitate implementation of regional strategies and initiatives. [COM/EEAS]

1.2.3. Conduct a communication campaign to explain the EU approach to maritime security in the global maritime domain at the national, EU and international level. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.3. In accordance with the European Security Strategy (ESS), strengthen and support EU regional responses in the global maritime domain, notably by making best possible use of existing policies, ensuring coherence with EU policies, in particular the Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP), the Internal Security Strategy (ISS), and initiatives under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). *(M/L)*

1.3.1. When applicable, reinforce the security dimension of existing EU sea basin strategies and consider its insertion in future strategies. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.3.2. Strengthen the cooperation between external and internal security dimensions of EU policies and ensure coherence with EU security strategies in order to prevent, *inter alia*, cross border and organised crime and other illegal activities, such as drug trafficking.

In this context, address smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings more effectively in the maritime domain, by developing security capacity building programs with third countries, with a focus on priority countries and routes. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.3.3. Reinforce EU delegations with security experts with a maritime focus in third countries where, along with the EU's strategic interests, maritime security is a concern. This should be done on a case by case basis, taking into account priorities and operational needs. [MS/EEAS]

1.3.4. Enhance the interoperability between participants in CSDP operations and missions in the global maritime domain. [MS/EEAS]

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1.4. Building on existing EU cooperation, conduct maritime security capacity building activities with third countries and regional organisations in order to enhance their capacities in the fields of:

1) **maritime governance and rule of law, including criminal justice and maritime law enforcement;**

2) **port and maritime transport security to international agreed standards;**

3) **capabilities to manage their own borders; and**

4) **to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.** *(I/M/L)*

1.4.1. Identify those regional maritime capacity building activities that offer synergies or efficiencies to reinforce existing maritime security capacity building programmes (e.g. Rabat Process). Develop similar initiatives, where needed, with other third countries and regional organisations. Whilst ensuring local ownership, priority should be given to countries and regions where the lack of maritime security capacity has a direct impact on the security and economic prosperity of the EU and its citizens including on ports/regions with major trade flows to the EU and on countries/regions of transit and origin of migration flows. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.4.2. Explore ways to take stock of and contribute to effective coordination of existing and future capacity building initiatives, drawing on lessons learned from the EU's Comprehensive Approach in the Horn of Africa, the EU Critical Maritime Routes Programme and the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS) and the implementation of the Gulf of Guinea Strategy.

Where appropriate, support the coherent implementation of regional maritime security strategies (AU, ECCAS,SADC, etc.), *inter alia*, as elaborated in the context of the Djibouti and Yaoundé Codes of Conduct. Support the establishment of maritime information sharing environment and information fusion centres (e.g. the Regional Maritime Information Sharing Center-ReMISC, and the ISCs in Mombasa and in Dar-es-Salaam) in zones of strategic interest for the EU and its Member States, based on voluntary national and regional contributions and, where appropriate, by promoting cooperation with the industry. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.4.3. Once developed, consider the application of the "Train and Equip" approach to the maritime domain, in line with separately agreed policies. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.4.4. Encourage regional fisheries management organisations to develop common procedures in case of contact with, or detection of, sea-dumped hazardous materials. [MS/COM]

1.4.5. Support third countries in establishing and upgrading capabilities related to maritime security, which could also include aspects of Search and Rescue, in accordance with the International Aeronautical and Maritime SAR (IAMSAR) manual and in line with international obligations within the framework of the IMO. Specific training, exercises and support, in close coordination with any pre-existing bilateral arrangements should be carried out, also through existing instruments, including within the framework of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.4.6. Support third countries' national policies and regional and international initiatives in addressing IUU fishing activities in order to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and address the full range of economic, social, governance, capacity building, security and development challenges linked to IUU fishing. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.4.**7.** Highlight the importance to national and regional authorities in third countries of the implementation of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS), promote port security control functions and, as appropriate, capacity building for maritime security in ports and coastal waters. [MS/COM]

1.5. Review and if necessary reinforce the preparation of the EU and Member States for future maritime contingencies.

Reinforce the preparation for future maritime security contingencies and mainstreaming maritime security into the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) agenda, in close cooperation with all relevant EU actors, in line with the EU's comprehensive approach. *(M/L)*

1.5.1. On the basis of EU Military Rapid Response, and in line with the EUMSS, evaluate a possible further improvement of the Rapid Response mechanism for a rapid reaction at sea, taking into account the Force Catalogue and capabilities available to Member States.

Within the existing framework, evaluate options to promote an adequate maritime response in areas of instability that could affect the EU and its Member States' strategic interests. [MS/EEAS]

1.5.2. Based on the key tenets of the EU Maritime Security Strategy, revise and implement the Maritime Security Operations (MSO) concept. Complement the MSO concept with additional concepts as appropriate to cover the full spectrum of threats identified in the EUMSS. [MS/EEAS]

1.5.3. Mainstream maritime security into the Common Foreign and Security Policy agenda, in close cooperation with all relevant EU actors, in line with the EU's comprehensive approach, enhancing measures for conflict prevention and crisis management. [MS/EEAS]

1.5.4. Further enhance European maritime capabilities and European interoperability for maritime security operations, taking advantage of existing initiatives, such as EUROMARFOR, the European Amphibious Initiative, and the Carrier Group Interoperability Initiative, whilst also ensuring relevant coordination and complementarity between the EU and NATO.

Work in this area should be explored also with other partner organisations. [MS/EEAS]

1.6. **Promote the dispute settlement mechanisms according to the UNCLOS, including the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), in the political dialogues of the EU with third countries and regional organisations.** *(I/M)*

1.6.1. In the context of political dialogues of the EU with third countries and regional organisations, promote the concept of peaceful settlement of maritime disputes, the dispute settlement mechanisms provided by UNCLOS, including the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Court of Justice, and the full implementation of any binding decisions rendered by the courts and tribunals established under or referred to by UNCLOS. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.6.2. Support the establishment of mechanisms for maritime confidence building measures (e.g. within the ARF). [MS/EEAS]

1.6.3. Support the development of regional codes of conduct, such as the Djibouti and the Yaoundé Codes of Conduct, on the basis of relevant provisions of international law. [MS/COM/EEAS]

1.7. **Promote, in both the framework of IMO and CGPCS, the dissemination of the principles of exclusive jurisdiction of the flag-states on the high seas, as well as the functional immunity of personnel performing official duties at sea.** *(M)*

1.7.1. Map international and national law, including case-law of Member States, in order to promote a EU common approach towards the mentioned principles. [COM/ EEAS]

WORKSTRAND 2 : MARITIME AWARENESS, SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING

2.1. **Further implement the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE).**

Further improve cross-sectoral cooperation and interoperability at national and EU level as regards integrated maritime surveillance within the framework of the respective Member State and EU authorities and responsibilities.

Establish comprehensive 'maritime awareness' on maritime surveillance and maritime security to improve early warning and facilitate a timely response, having regard for regional priorities. *(I/M/L)*

2.1.1. Continue to implement the CISE as a meta-project by 2020 through enhanced co-operation between civil and military authorities with a view to further enhance a common maritime situational awareness picture and data exchange through the workstrands identified in the Commission communication "Better situational awareness by enhanced cooperation across maritime surveillance authorities: Next steps within the Common Information Sharing Environment for the EU maritime domain".

To this end, Commission and Member States are invited to analyse and clarify the different sectoral approaches and projects in the field of maritime situational awareness and data exchange, as well as the role/competence of the actors involved. [MS/COM]

2.1.2. Develop measures to ensure the interoperability between sectoral information exchange systems at national and EU level (based upon the principles of collaboration and cooperation and by establishing protocols, authorizations and protections), in line with the European Interoperability Reference Architecture developed under the ISA programme of the Digital Agenda of Europe. [MS/COM]

2.1.3. Provide an overview of existing sources of funding of CISE-related projects. [MS/COM]

2.1.4. Improve cross-sectoral cooperation and interoperability – at national level – as regards integrated maritime surveillance within the framework of the respective authorities and responsibilities of the Member States, in order to arrive to a common maritime awareness picture.[4] [MS]

2.1.5. Invite relevant EU agencies (e.g. EMSA, EFCA, FRONTEX, EDA and EUROPOL) and other European agencies (e.g. ESA) to reinforce inter-agency cooperation and continue supporting Member States in developing a common maritime awareness picture, in accordance with their founding Regulations. [MS/COM]

2.1.6. Promote the development of projects in the field of maritime information such as the Pre-Operational Validation project of CISE (POV CISE), as well as IMDatE in accordance with the clarifications set forth in 2.1.1. [MS/COM]

2.1.7. Improve the sharing of relevant information on sea-dumped chemical munitions and unexploded ordnances. Cooperation with international partners and organisations, in this area should be explored. [MS]

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[4]   As set forth in section VI (2) of the EUMSS.

2.2. **Strengthen the cross-border cooperation and the information exchange to optimise the surveillance of the EU maritime area and its maritime borders.** *(I/M)*

2.2.1. Invite participating Member States to ensure that by 2015 all civilian and military relevant authorities with responsibility for maritime border surveillance share information via the EUROSUR national situational pictures and cooperate via the EUROSUR national coordination centres on a regular basis, in order to improve situational awareness and to increase reaction capability at the external borders of the Member States of the Union for the purpose of detecting, preventing and combating illegal immigration and cross-border crime, and contributing to ensuring the protection and saving of lives of migrants. [MS/COM]

2.2.2. Member States are invited to second any needed Liaison Officers to the national coordination centres.[5]

Member States are invited to coordinate the patrolling activities of their national authorities responsible for maritime surveillance.

Take advantage of the lessons learned and experiences provided by the current European Patrol Network (EPN) FRONTEX Joint Operations to strengthen the cross-border cooperation. [MS]

2.2.3. Promote the best practices of interoperability between the relevant authorities in maritime security in the area of radio and other forms of communication. [MS]

2.3. **Ensure adequate coordination between the various EU surveillance initiatives in the EU and the global maritime domain.**

Support the conduct of CSDP missions and operations in the global maritime domain with EU maritime surveillance assets. *(M)*

2.3.1. In line with CISE, ensure consistency and strengthen coordination between the existing and planned maritime surveillance initiatives on the basis of existing programs and initiatives by EDA, EFCA, EMSA, EUSC, FRONTEX, and other European agencies (e.g. ESA) as well as the Earth Observation programme (Copernicus), GALILEO / EGNOS (European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service), and other relevant projects and initiatives. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

2.3.2. Complement space-based technology with the applications of RPAS as well as ship reporting systems, *in situ* infrastructure (radar stations) and other surveillance tools, to ensure a global maritime awareness picture, also through the elaboration of a civil-military concept detailing specific information and operational requirements. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

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[5]   In accordance with Article 5 of Regulation 1052/13.

2.3.3. Further improve the Maritime Surveillance network (MARSUR) in support of CSDP, to support and promote EU and Member States' initiatives in the maritime domain and actions aimed to improve EU Maritime Surveillance and maritime security.

Invite participating Member States to ensure that by 2016 all national military operational information centres share information via MARSUR in order to support CSDP operations and missions. Improve data exchange and interoperability with the EU Critical Maritime Routes Programme, EUROSUR, the Maritime Security (MASE) Programme and other relevant programmes, and explore ways to improve information sharing with relevant partners, where appropriate. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

2.3.4. Organise a "MSA Week" with the involvement of academia and the industrial sector, when appropriate. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

2.3.5. Promote the development of national maritime security operational coordination centres where civil-military maritime stakeholders share information and foster cooperation between these centres, taking into account section III (b) of the EUMSS and avoiding duplication, including the avoidance of overlap with the coordination centres set up under the EUROSUR Regulation. [MS]

2.3.6. Intensify law enforcement activities coordinated by MAOC(N) to combat illicit trafficking of drugs across the Atlantic Ocean. [MS/COM]

2.3.7. Building upon existing obligations, develop voluntary outreach programmes to encourage members of the fishing and shipping industry and recreational boating community to report suspicious activities. [MS/COM]

2.3.8. Promote cooperative initiatives such as the Proliferation Security Initiative to improve weapons of mass destruction (WMD) interdiction, in coherence with the Suppression of Unlawful Acts (SUA) convention. [MS/EEAS]

2.3.9. Identify the relevant aspects of the Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) mechanism which could be used to enhance sustainable maritime situational awareness in zones of strategic interest for the EU and consider developing a non-binding common reporting format to ease the transmission of reports and information, and eventually data, to shore-side authorities. [MS/EEAS]

2.3.10. On a voluntary basis and in compliance with the relevant rules, share information at inter-sectoral and cross-border levels contributing to the maritime situational awareness picture with other international organisations and partners and develop common information sharing protocols, where appropriate. [MS/COM/EEAS]

WORKSTRAND 3 : CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT

3.1. **Identify capability areas and technologies that could benefit from continued and additional investments, improving harmonisation for better interoperability, standardisation and certification in the maritime domain.** *(I/M/L)*

3.1.1. Develop technical roadmaps, mapping the process and milestones to achieve a more efficient use of resources. In the military domain, this should build upon the EU Capability Development Plan. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.2. Building on the CDP priority action "Maritime patrolling and escorting", harmonise requirements for next generation patrol vessels and systems with the aim to support and develop collaborative programmes and activities in the field of naval logistics. [MS/EDA]

3.1.3. In order to enhance fair and EU-wide competition in the internal market, act to overcome fragmentation including, *inter alia*, through ensuring full implementation and application of the two defence Directives of 2009[6], explore capabilities presently available and innovative solutions to increase sustainability and cost/efficiency of civilian and military assets and encouraging transparency; while respecting Member States legitimate national security concerns. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.4. Explore the creation and best use of synergies between information, capabilities and systems managed by civilian and military authorities up to multipurpose and multinational initiatives, so that, where appropriate, certain tasks currently performed at national level can be carried out in common. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.5. Taking into account existing work, identify and actively promote areas where standardisation and certification can improve efficiency and reduce the cost of maritime capabilities by enabling, *inter alia*, cross-national asset maintenance and training of maintenance personnel. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.6. Promote and elicit Member States' initiatives in the maritime domain aimed to improve energy efficiency, in line with the 2030 targets highlighted in the climate and energy framework. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.7. Promote the establishment of links to foster cooperation in the area of maritime capability development between EU agencies, research centres and centres of excellence of EU Member States, including those NATO-accredited ones that are open to all Member States. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.1.8. In order to ensure the competitiveness of the industry as a whole, evaluate how to promote an enabling framework of civil-military related shipbuilding industry and linked activities. [MS/COM/EDA]

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[6]   Directive 2009/81/EC (Coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security) and Directive 2009/43/EC (Simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products within the Community)

3.1.9. Explore how to harmonize policies of Member States' and promote and maintain a high level of Member States' industrial cooperation as a means to foster maritime security, realising economies of scale and increasing competitiveness. [MS]

3.1.10. Identify specific future strategic technological challenges and build capacities to meet them via innovation, R&D and standardization taking into due account the European Strategic Cluster Partnership, the Enterprise European Network and the promotion of regional networking to integrate industrial and research assets related to maritime security into regional smart specialization strategies. [MS/COM]

3.1.11. Invite Member States to evaluate the quantitative/qualitative adequacy of assets currently available for patrol missions. Identify the optimal level needed to face the expected security threats at sea and, if appropriate, support a pre-commercial prototype procurement scheme, upon Member States request. [MS/COM]

3.1.12. Foster cooperation in the area of maritime polar capabilities, building upon the EDA's work. [MS/EDA]

3.2. Explore the possibilities to develop dual-use and multipurpose capabilities and explore options for their use.

In doing so, ensure that such initiatives contribute to the EU capacity to act, and result in unchanged or greater levels of investment by the Member States in capability development and research. *(I/M/L)*

3.2.1. Maximise coordination between EDA programmes and the outcome of EU civil research programmes in areas of dual use technologies and examine modalities for dual-use capabilities, building upon and expanding the scope of the European Framework Cooperation (EFC), *inter alia* by identifying pilot projects in the area of RPAS, satellite communications, high resolution satellite imagery, tracking of signals and detection of vessels by underwater technologies, information exchange, cyber security and maritime security, in order to support Member States' activities in these areas, bearing in mind that military capabilities are owned and operated by Member States. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.2.2. Improve the integration of a cyber security dimension in the maritime domain in terms of capabilities, research and technologies, building on civil-military coordination and synergies with EU cyber policies developed in the framework of the EU Cyber Security Strategy. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

3.2.3. Building on the EU Cyber Security Strategy, develop cyber crime prevention and cyber defence capabilities in order to secure the EU capacity building programmes in the field of maritime security, as well as to reinforce cyber incident response capabilities of CSDP structures, missions and operations, in line with the EU Cyber Defence Policy Framework. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

3.2.4. Continue to upgrade and standardize the characteristics of air, naval and other maritime assets optimised for patrol missions in the global maritime domain. [MS/EDA]

3.2.5. Explore the added value of EU-owned, developed, coordinated, managed or leased dual-use capabilities in areas of critical capability requirements, whilst noting that all military capabilities remain owned, controlled and operated by Member States. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

3.2.6. Enhance mutual knowledge of operational maritime and air assets with a perspective to develop joint operations and interoperability of capabilities. [MS]

3.2.7. Explore the potential and cost-effectiveness for multi-purpose/dual use ships and maritime systems, taking advantage of the benefit of a mission modular approach to the development of future naval/maritime capabilities and the implications for the European naval and maritime industry and the naval defence competitiveness levels in the global domain. [MS/COM/EDA]

3.2.8. Explore the potential benefits deriving from a cross-sectoral cooperation in the areas of naval logistic and training vessel. [MS/EDA]

3.2.9. Also in line with the CDP priority action "Maritime Patrolling and Escorting", explore the potential to develop sea-based modular systems to increase flexibility and affordability for deployed forces. [MS/EDA]

3.2.10. Building on the CDP priority action "Naval Surveillance systems":

- conduct work on unmanned maritime underwater systems;

- optimise existing Maritime Patrol Vessels capability in view of mitigating potential future shortfalls in Maritime Patrol Aircraft;

- explore the possibility of employment of a long endurance maritime RPAS. [MS/EDA]

3.3. Promote greater sharing of best practices, risk analysis and threat information amongst all relevant fora.

Making best use of and creating synergies between information, capabilities and systems managed by civilian and military authorities up to multipurpose and multinational missions.

Promote pooling and sharing initiatives and projects, pursued by Member States including through EDA and other relevant civilian and military actors; good coordination and mutual reinforcement with NATO in order to ensure complementarity and increase coherence should continue *(M/L)*

3.3.1. Promote greater sharing of best practices, risk analysis and threat information, where appropriate in cooperation with social partners acting in the ports and maritime transport sectors and offshore installations where necessary. [MS/COM]

3.3.2. Continue monitoring and inspections conducted by the Commission and related to the implementation of European legislation pertaining to maritime transport security by Member States and operators. [COM]

3.3.3. Support both at national, sub-regional and European level better exchange of information and of best practices among authorities and between authorities and operators. [MS/COM]

3.3.4. Improve coherent application of maritime security and the security of the supply chain, by enhancing practical cooperation and information exchange between competent authorities. Ensure coordination of relevant policies at international level. [MS/COM]

3.3.5. Develop, as appropriate, further cooperation between authorities performing coast guard functions in order to strengthen the cross-sectoral approach to maritime security. [MS]

3.3.6. Promote and support greater sharing of best practice, risk analysis and threat information amongst all relevant fora such as the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF) and the Chiefs of European Navies (CHEN), taking into account the maritime operational plans in force between Member States and the regional agreements in the EU. [MS/COM]

3.3.7. Explore pooling and sharing initiatives including in the framework of the EU Emergency Response Capacity. [MS/COM/EDA]

WORKSTRAND 4: RISK MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION OF CRITICAL MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE AND CRISIS RESPONSE

4.1. Conduct common risk analyses in order to establish a shared maritime security risk management, also taking into account the protection of the EU's marine environmental status *(M/L)*

4.1.1. Pursue a shared and comprehensive approach to maritime security risk management, also based upon national risk analyses. Develop the risk management model between Member States and Agencies for maritime security by reviewing the present situation in order to identify needs, possible overlaps and gaps. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.1.2. Explore novel information-based risk analysis techniques as well as data sources currently not exploited, to enhance risk assessment and response capacity. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.1.3. Support information-exchange based initiatives to improve the common pre-arrival security risk assessment for the movement of goods through the global supply chain. [MS/COM]

4.1.4. Undertake research on enhanced protection of borders, especially with regard to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats, advanced sealing technologies (contributing to container security) and trade analysis for strategic goods in support of non-proliferation. [MS/COM]

4.1.5. Explore the establishment of links with the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence initiative to develop further information exchange. [MS/EEAS]

4.1.6. Share maritime security related intelligence information based on a joined-up threat and risk assessment on a voluntary basis within the framework of existing legislation, *inter alia* through regular maritime security workshops. [MS/EEAS]

4.1.7. Encourage the development of contingency and response plans and implementation of guidelines for securing strategic sea lines of communications, sea-based energy corridors, offshore installations and other critical infrastructures, such as those related to energy security, in the maritime domain. [MS/COM]

4.1.8. In line with the EU Cybersecurity Strategy, on-going work on the proposed Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive and the NIS Platform, foster a holistic, risk-based approach to Cybersecurity in the maritime sector to ensure a high level of cyber resilience of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) networks and systems supporting critical maritime infrastructures. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.1.9. Building on existing initiatives, such as the CHEMSEA project and others, encourage national authorities to draw up unified response models, notably by establishing a common contingency plan for emergency response to incidents and by creating a database of incidents and reporting systems, such as those related to sea-dumped chemical munitions. Enhance the interoperability to survey and combat against illegal accidental discharge, in particular oil and other chemicals. [MS/COM]

4.1.10. Seek to ensure the safe and secure maritime transportation of dangerous goods in the waters bordering EU Member States' territorial waters whilst recalling existing pollution response and combating mechanisms and encouraging cooperation between Member States and third countries. [MS/COM]

4.2. Take initiatives on enhanced cross-sectoral and cross-border cooperation for maritime crisis response and contingency planning in relation to defined security threats, by taking into account the Council Decision on the arrangements for the implementation of the solidarity Clause. *(M/L)*

4.2.1. Develop a process to share, where appropriate, Member States' civil-military contingency and response plans in areas of interest. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.2.2. Develop or support the development of EU maritime exercises to enhance readiness and preparedness of Member States and EU capacities to respond to security threats as defined in the EUMSS, including consequences of climate change, taking into account impact, level of vulnerability and adaptation measures in Member States. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.2.3. Optimize EU maritime civil-military Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HA/DR) Response Teams and Member States' military assets, on a voluntary and case-by-case basis, as a contribution to EU-coordinated HA/DR response operations. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.2.4. Establish a link with ongoing work on disaster risk management planning under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.2.5. Conduct, in accordance with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism[7], cross-border maritime exercises to train and enhance Participating States to the mechanism, EU and European Neighbourhood Policy country capacities for disaster management and in responding to security threats, as defined in the EUMSS. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.2.6. Evaluate possible contributions from Member States' civil and military assets, such as mine hunter and hydro-oceanographic research vessels, for underwater archaeological research.

In this context, address illegal and unregulated archaeological research and pillage of archaeological objects. [MS]

4.2.7. Explore on the basis of already existing information and in full respect of the principle of functional integrity, how to draw on/make best use of existing information-sharing tools, also building on cooperation with the EU agencies, through a European cross-sectoral maritime situational awareness outlook at EU strategic level, possibly in the form of a regular bulletin, in order to provide EU institutions and Member States with a sustainable watch of actions. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.3. Assess the resilience of maritime transport infrastructure to man-made and natural disasters and climate change.

Take appropriate adaptive actions, including the sharing of best practices, in order to mitigate the related security risks. *(M/L)*

4.3.1. Promote the implementation of climate risk and vulnerability assessments and the establishment of adaptation and risk management measures for (critical) maritime infrastructure. [MS/COM]

4.3.2. Compile lessons learned from R&D on resilient supply chains for maritime transport logistics to withstand shocks from terrorist attacks or other equivalent acts to critical infrastructures such as hubs, ports, off shore installations, etc. [MS/COM]

4.3.3. Support and stimulate the work of European standardisation organisations in identifying and revising European Standards in the areas of energy, transport and buildings, with the aim of building and maintaining a more climate-resilient maritime infrastructure in the EU. [MS/COM]

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[7] The Mechanism currently includes 31 countries: all 28 EU Member States in addition to Iceland, Norway and FYROM (the later currently renewing its membership). Montenegro and Serbia are in a process of joining the mechanism.

4.3.4. Encourage collaborative activity by Member States and with partners in order to identify critical energy transit routes and promote freedom and security of navigation. [MS/EEAS]

4.3.5. Promote the sharing of best practice and lessons learned related to the protection of critical maritime infrastructure and maritime transport, including *inter alia,* through the web-based European Climate Adaptation Platform, taking advantage of a possible EU cross-sectoral maritime situational awareness outlook. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.4. Promoting a mutual understanding to increase interoperability amongst maritime security actors. *(M/L)*

4.4.1 Explore the possible need to elaborate non binding guidelines that allow the various stakeholders to respond consistently in similar maritime security situations. [MS/COM/EEAS]

4.4.2. Elaborate a glossary of all terms used in the field of Maritime Security to promote commonly shared definitions. [COM/EEAS]

WORKSTRAND 5: MARITIME SECURITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

5.1. Bring together the available maritime security-related training courses in common Maritime Training Modules.

Establish new and develop further existing networks for knowledge and competence development in the field of maritime security for civilian and military educational institutes, centres and academies. *(I/M)*

5.1.1. Further support specialised high level maritime security training, including coast guard functions, building on the EU agencies' and Member States' Qualification Frameworks, with a view to developing, establishing, promoting and implementing minimum common training standards, on a voluntary basis. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.1.2. Create an inventory of existing networks for knowledge and competence development in the area of maritime security and develop on this basis, also taking into account the contribution of the ESDC, a European Maritime Academy Network (Navy and Marine Academies, Maritime Chairs of Universities and Coast Guard functions). [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.1.3. Explore exchanges and academic competitions among civil-military officers from Member States, *inter alia*, through strategic partnerships under Erasmus+. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.1.4. Conduct an inventory of existing maritime training material, notably those endorsed at international level, which could be a basis to develop common curricula. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

5.1.5. Invite relevant agencies in accordance with their founding Regulations to organise training courses and open these to eligible third countries, if appropriate. [MS/COM]

5.1.6. Include emergency response training in the Exercise Policy of the EU under the CFSP and in EU and national exercise calendars. [MS/EEAS]

5.1.7. Acknowledge the activity of international academies, such as the Maritime Labour Academy of the International Labour Organisation, the IMO International Maritime Law Institute or the IMO World Maritime University, and provide support to them as appropriate. [MS/COM]

5.1.8. Enhance Oceanographic knowledge & information and data sharing and cooperation, also on the basis of European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNET).

Improve ocean observation capacities (including real-time observations). Develop through increased cooperation between Member States common initiatives to better monitor the oceans from the surface to the seabed and develop educational and training programmes to improve oceanographic forecasting capacities.

Improve common competences and initiatives in underwater research. [MS/COM]

5.1.9. Develop the capacity to provide Rapid Environmental Assessment support to CSDP missions and operations by fostering cooperation at national and EU level between meteorological and oceanographic institutes, in particular in the field of ocean weather forecasting. [MS/EEAS]

5.1.10. Seek to organize, among civilian and military educational institutes, centres and academies, multidisciplinary expert workshops to identify solutions to counter known threats as well as emerging ones, without duplication of effort. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.1.11. Foster cooperation in the area of maritime security research and innovation, education and training, by promoting the establishment of links between EU agencies, research, training and education centres and centres of excellence of EU Member States, including those NATO-accredited ones that are open to all EU Member States. [MS/COM/EEAS/EDA]

5.1.12. Building on the work of the EDA Project Team continue to develop Naval Training modules, and explore opportunities to expand this approach to related maritime training. [MS/EEAS/EDA]

5.2. Establish a civil-military agenda for research and innovation in support of maritime security including the development of dual-use and multipurpose capabilities in support of Member State capabilities.

Promote public-private partnerships to accelerate technology development.

Create a network of global research and development partners. *(M/L)*

5.2.1. Mobilise EU research and innovation-related activities, in order to promote research into dual-use goods that contribute to improve maritime security and initiatives for capability development including coordination and the use of results stemming from Horizon 2020**8**. In doing so, involve research centres, maritime authorities, including EU agencies, in order to better align research activities with user requirements and to overcome the fragmentation of security demand at the EU level among European suppliers. [MS/COM/EDA]

5.2.2. Develop proposals to achieve synergies between research activities conducted under Horizon 2020 and EDA R&T programmes, through better coordination, building upon and expanding the scope of the European Framework Cooperation (EFC), and taking into account activities proposed in the 2013 Defence Communication and the 2014 Implementation Roadmap. [COM/EDA]

5.2.3. In the context of ongoing consultations, consider the potential for maritime research in the framework of the Preparatory Action on CSDP-related research. [MS/COM/EDA]

5.2.4. Consider the establishment of a network of R&D experts to create a clear vision and propose a cross-sectoral agenda for maritime security research. The participating experts will be sourced from end-user authorities, research and industry, and will include representatives of Member States, Commission, EDA and EEAS. This network will:

a)   Identify capability gaps requiring technological solutions and also promising innovative technologies that will have dual-use or cross-sectoral benefit. These may relate to, among others, maritime surveillance and situation awareness, information sharing, unmanned systems, environmental and energy aspects and innovative sensors;

b)   Assess recent and current R&D funding programs (FP7, Horizon 2020, EDA R&T programmes) to determine if coordination on identified and/or possible dual-use and cross sectoral gaps are adequately addressed, including standardization, harmonization and interoperability objectives;

c)   Work towards a joint civil-military research agenda for maritime security research based on the above analyses. [MS/COM/EDA]

5.2.5. Explore the access to the national/transnational use of European Structural and Investment Funds, to promote innovation and dual-use R&T and R&D across the maritime technological and industrial base and particularly SMEs, including for start-ups, building also on on-going EDA efforts and in coordination with the Commission. On the basis of existing Regulations, explore how to facilitate access to the mentioned European Funds, including Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ for actions provided within the present Action Plan, where appropriate. [MS/COM/EDA]

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8   Regulation (EU) 1291/2013, in particular art.19.2. This footnote also applies to all the following references to Horizon 2020.

5.2.6. Taking advantage of the full potential of key enabling technologies (KETs), explore R&T and R&D related to systems/subsystems to contribute to a standardized approach. In doing so, take into due consideration the use of KETs, in order to allow efficient allocation and spending of financial resources, cut back operational costs, pool demand and harmonize requirements. [MS/COM/EDA]

5.2.7. Explore innovative sensors applications to improve the early detection and continuous tracking of small vessels, with a focus on (a) advanced technologies to independently verify self-reporting systems and help detect non-reporting ships, and (b) novel platforms to improve the highly-needed continuous surveillance. [MS/COM/EDA]

5.2.8. Seek active involvement of industry stakeholders and social partners to develop an improved understanding of the critical technologies and industrial capabilities required to sustain future maritime capabilities and how better to enable European companies to operate freely in all Member States. [MS/COM]

5.2.9. Address research and innovation challenges related to maritime cyber security in Horizon 2020 and contribute to the work of the NIS Platform to maximize synergies and cross-fertilization between the maritime sector, the ICT industry and other industry sectors, as well as academia. [MS/COM]

5.2.10 Promote public-private partnerships (PPP) on Maritime Surveillance which should involve end-users, industry, academia and research and technology centres to address research, development and innovation tasks. [MS/COM]

5.3. **Promoting the conduct of inter-agency, joined-up exercises.** *(M/L)*

5.3.1. Include maritime security aspects in EU exercises in accordance with the EU Exercise Policy, making best use of maritime exercises conducted by Member States, involving civil-military assets aimed at enhancing pan-European cooperation. [MS/EEAS]

5.3.2. Conduct inter-agency, joined-up exercises in the field of humanitarian assistance, disaster-relief, mass casualty rescue and crisis-response. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.3.3. Develop an EU programme of national interagency maritime security exercises. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.3.4. Promote, on an ongoing basis, EU and Member States' maritime security exercises between internal security and law enforcement authorities involving civilian and military maritime authorities/agencies. [MS/COM/EEAS]

5.3.5. Promote exercises and training programmes, without unnecessary duplications, for the disposal of sea-dumped chemical munitions and unexploded ordnances, improving also the emergency procedures in case of accidental recovery of sea-dumped chemical munitions and unexploded ordnances. [MS/COM/EEAS]

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Follow-up

As stated in the EUMSS, the Action Plan aims at delivering cross-sectoral actions in a comprehensive and coordinated manner, mainstreaming maritime security into EU policies, strategies and instruments. Its implementation and review, in accordance with its delivery horizon, should be coordinated by the Friends of the Presidency Group.

The Friends of the Presidency Group should convene at least once each semester, starting from January 2015, to assess the progress of the implementation of the Action Plan and to contribute to the provision of political guidance.

Relevant Council preparatory bodies are invited to support and inform the work of the Friends of the Presidency Group according to their institutional role and fields of expertise. Council Working Parties are requested to assess whether and to what extent implementation of the Action Plan falls within their respective areas of responsibility and provide input to the Friends of the Presidency Group accordingly.

The Commission and the High Representative are invited to jointly assure the follow-up of this Action Plan through existing working bodies and expert groups, either in their current or upgraded composition, taking into account their respective areas of responsibility and competence. Relevant actors at EU and Member State level (both civilian and military) should be invited to attend those meetings. Regular reporting on the activities of the expert groups will be provided to the Friends of the Presidency Group, including on best practice and lessons learned.

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Useful websites :

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- ILO "DOCUMENT FOR GUIDANCE, 1985 An international maritime training guide" (12.1985) - [link](#)

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  [Article 19

  Ethical principles

  1. All the research and innovation activities carried out under Horizon 2020 shall comply with ethical principles and relevant national, Union and international legislation, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention on Human Rights and its Supplementary Protocols.

  Particular attention shall be paid to the principle of proportionality, the right to privacy, the right to the protection of personal data, the right to the physical and mental integrity of a person, the right to non-discrimination and the need to ensure high levels of human health protection.

  2. Research and innovation activities carried out under Horizon 2020 shall have an exclusive focus on civil applications.

  3. The following fields of research shall not be financed:

  (a) research activity aiming at human cloning for reproductive purposes;

  (b) research activity intended to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable (1);

  (c) research activities intended to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.

4. Research on human stem cells, both adult and embryonic, may be financed, depending both on the contents of the scientific proposal and the legal framework of the Member States involved. No funding shall be granted for research activities that are prohibited in all the Member States. No activity shall be funded in a Member State where such activity is forbidden.

5. The fields of research set out in paragraph 3 of this Article may be reviewed within the context of the interim evaluation set out in Article 32(3) in the light of scientific advances.]

- COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 10.12.2013 on the adoption of multi-annual work programmes under the Council Decision establishing the Specific Programme Implementing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) and under the Council Regulation on the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2014-2018) complementing the Horizon 2020 – The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, to be carried out by means of direct actions by the Joint Research Centre for the period 2014-2015 (10.12.2013) C(2013) 8637 final link -

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Abbreviations

ARF	ASEAN Regional Forum
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CBRN centres of excellence	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear centres of excellence
CDP	Capacity Development Plan
CFSP	Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU
CGPCS	Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia
CHEMSEA project	Chemical Munitions at sea project
CHEN	Chiefs of European Navies
CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment for the EU
COM	Commission of the EU
Copernicus	European Earth observation programme
CSDP	Common Security and Defence policy of the EU
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECGFF	European Coast Guard Functions Forum
EDA	European Defence Agency
EDA R&T programmes	Research and Technology programmes of the EDA
EEAS	European External Action Service
EFC	European Framework Cooperation
EFCA	European Fisheries Control Agency
EGNOS	European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service
EMODNET	European Marine Observation and Data Network
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
EPN	European Patrol Network
ESA	European Space Agency
ESDC	European Security and Defence College
ESS	EU Security Strategy
EU	European union
EUMSS	Maritime security strategy of the EU
EUROMARFOR	EU Maritime forces
EUROPOL	European Union's law enforcement agency
EUROSUR	European Border Surveillance System
EUSC	European Union Satellite Centre
FP7	7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
FRONTEX	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union

GALILEO	European global navigation satellite system
GCC	Gulf Co-operation council
Horizon 2020	Research and Innovation programme of the EU
HA/DR	Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief
IAMSAR	International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue system
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ILO	international Labour Organisation
IMDatE	Integrated Maritime Data Environment
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IMP	Integrated Maritime Policy of the EU
INTERPOL	International crime police organisation
ISA	Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations
ISC	Information Sharing Center
ISPS code	International Ship and Port Facility Security Code
ISS	Internal Security Strategy of the EU
ITLOS	International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea
(IUU) fishing.	Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
KETs	Key Enabling Technologies
MASE	regional Maritime Security Programme
MAOC(N)	Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics
MARSUR	Maritime Surveillance project of EDA
METOC ships	Meteorological and oceanography ships
MS	Member States
MSA	Maritime Situational Awareness
MSCHOA	Maritime Security Centre Horn Of Africa
MSO concept	Maritime Security Operations concept
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NIS Directive	Network and Information Security Directive
POV CISE	Pre-Operational Validation project of CISE
PPP	Public-private partnership
R&D	Research and Development
ReMISC	Regional Maritime Information-Sharing Centre
RPA	Remotely Piloted Aircraft (drones)
SADC	the Southern African Development Community
SAR	Search and Rescue
SMEs	Small and medium size enterprises
SUA Convention	Convention on Suppression of Unlawful Acts
UFM	Union for the Mediterranean
UN	United Nations
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNODC	United Nation Office on Drug and Crime
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction

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