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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
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Subject:	ANNEX to the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council on the update of the EU Maritime Security Strategy and its Action Plan "An enhanced EU Maritime Security Strategy for evolving maritime threats"

Delegations will find attached document JOIN(2023) 8 final.

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EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

HIGH REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
SECURITY POLICY

Brussels, 10.3.2023
JOIN(2023) 8 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council
on the update of the EU Maritime Security Strategy and its Action Plan
"An enhanced EU Maritime Security Strategy for evolving maritime threats"

Action Plan¹

Strategic Objective 1. Step up activities at sea

Objectives	Actions		Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors ²
1.1. Expand the role and actions of the EU in the sea basins around the EU and overseas.	Strengthen EU CSDP naval operations and expand the Coordinated Maritime Presences (CMP) concept			
	1.1.1	Provide EU CSDP naval operations (including Atalanta and Irini) with the naval and air assets listed in their respective combined joint statements of requirements.	2025	MS, EEAS
	1.1.2	Consider new maritime areas of interest in which to implement the CMP, based on proposals from the EEAS.	As of 2023	MS, EEAS
	Develop cooperation and synergies between MS-led and EU initiatives on maritime security			
	1.1.3	Step up cooperation between EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta and the European Maritime Awareness Mission in the Strait of Hormuz (EMASOH).	As of 2023	MS, EEAS
	1.1.4	Ensure overall coherence and coordination of EU MS actions with those of relevant Commission and HR services and agencies, including through the CMP.	On a rolling basis	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.5	Support action with EUROSUR Fusion services and information exchange capabilities, such as those available through CISE and IMS, and coordinate monitoring activities in pre-frontier areas.	On a rolling basis	Frontex, EMSA

¹ The EUMSS will be implemented via this Action Plan and in the framework of the Integrated Approach. It will use all available EU civilian and military policies, tools and instruments, and coordinate policies and activities of all relevant players at European, regional and national level, strengthening their synergies and complementarities. It will also promote a more coherent engagement of the EU in external conflicts and crises, to enhance the security of the EU and its citizens.

² Concerned Actors listed in the action plan will contribute in line with their respective competences, responsibilities and mandates. The EU agencies in this action plan are those identified as actors under the various actions of the action plan, and any role assigned to them is without prejudice to the procedures and decisions of their respective administrative boards as regards agencies' contributions to these actions. Other relevant EU agencies may also be invited by the Commission or Member States to collaborate in the implementation of the action plan. Agencies will participate in international work through the respective EU services ('parent DGs').

	1.1.6	Support the creation of maritime staff operators courses (MSCO) in MS by providing training and access to EUROSUR capabilities and services.		
	1.1.7	Ensure that EU action at sea and on land is complementary with the EU Integrated Approach by promoting links with inter-agency cooperation on coast guard functions (Tripartite Working Arrangement) and a Multipurpose Maritime Operation concept developed under the EU cooperation on coast guard functions and implemented by coast guard authorities in the sea basins concerned.	As of 2023, on a rolling basis.	MS, COM, EEAS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex
	1.1.8	Promote synergies, where appropriate and legally feasible, between CSDP activities and Multipurpose Maritime Operation concepts developed in the framework of inter-agency cooperation on coast guard functions.	As of 2023, on a rolling basis.	MS, COM, EEAS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex
	In relevant sea basins around the EU			
	1.1.9	Organise an annual EU naval exercise, involving navies and related authorities from as many MS as possible to boost preparedness and response capabilities to traditional threats as well as to the risks and threats listed in Strategic Objective 4.	Annually, as of 2024	MS, EEAS
	1.1.10	Streamline maritime security in the work on sea basin strategies and on macro-regional strategies, where relevant.	As of 2023, on a rolling basis.	COM
	Arctic			
	1.1.11	Ensure sufficient satellite observation of the new Arctic Sea routes, including through Copernicus capabilities (including its marine service – CMEMS ³), to enhance situational awareness.	By 2025	COM, EMSA
	1.1.12	Participate in the work of the Arctic Council and related fora, as appropriate.	On a rolling basis.	MS, EEAS, COM
	Atlantic			
	1.1.13	Support anti-drug-trafficking operations by exchanging information and running joint operations, including at departing countries/ ports and destination EU ports and port facilities	As of 2023, on a rolling basis.	MS, COM, MAOC-N, EMSA,

³ <https://marine.copernicus.eu/>

				EUROPOL
	Baltic Sea			
	1.1.14	Set up a mechanism involving the COM, the Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) and HELCOM to coordinate scientific actions, operations, and data sharing to implement a plan of action for tackling UXO in the Baltic Sea.	By the end of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.15	Develop a tool at regional level to allow the sharing of data on munitions, conduct a risk assessment and identify the best ways to remove conventional and chemical munitions from the Baltic Sea.	By the end of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.16	Develop and scale up technologies to tackle UXO, also involving civilian entities, and promoting links with industry.	As of 2024, on a rolling basis.	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.17	Set up a regular campaign aiming at cleaning the Baltic Sea Region of dumped munitions, to protect the marine environment, ensure security of sea lanes and facilitate the development of maritime economic activities.	As of 2024, on a rolling basis.	MS, COM, EEAS
	Black Sea			
	1.1.18	Enhance the capacities for coordinated response to marine pollution related to armed conflicts, including by developing new training curricula to tackle pollution from various sources, including e.g. UXO, mines, oil leaks, sunken vessels, noise pollution etc., which might also affect biodiversity and ecosystems, also utilising Common Maritime Agenda (CMA) for the Black Sea and the Black Sea Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA).	2023	MS, COM, EMSA
	1.1.19	Analyse the impact of military activities in the context of the war in Ukraine, on cetaceans, through the work of ASCOBANS (Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans).	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.20	Build on the existing capacities of SatCen and other EU services and to boost current capabilities to detect sea mines, including those deployed in the context of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, posing a risk to shipping and navigation.	As of 2023	MS, COM, SatCen
	Mediterranean			

	1.1.21	Enhance capabilities of like-minded Mediterranean partner countries and share information, where appropriate, to enhance their ability to carry out border controls with the aim of detecting and preventing unauthorised border-crossings and cross-border criminal activities.	On a rolling basis	MS, COM, EEAS, Frontex
	1.1.22	Enhance the coordination and synergies between Operation IRINI, EUBAM LIBYA and relevant European Agencies.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS, Frontex, EMSA
	1.1.23	In line with the UfM SBE Declaration ⁴ , the MedCGFF will develop training courses and facilitate the exchange of information, expertise, technical assistance, training and best practices among UfM countries to tackle illicit activities at sea.	On a rolling basis, as of 2024	MS, COM, Frontex, EMSA, EFCA
	1.1.24	Identify and promote regional maritime capacity-building activities to expand existing maritime security capacity-building programmes (e.g. the Rabat Process) and develop similar initiatives with partner countries and regional organisations.	On a rolling basis, as of 2024	MS, EEAS
	1.1.25	Implement GFCM Recommendations/International Inspection Scheme/Pilot Projects to improve the sustainability of fisheries resources, to support the fight against IUU	On a rolling basis	MS, COM, EFCA
	North Sea			
	1.1.26	Carry out a comprehensive mapping exercise of the North Sea basin in order to conduct a risk assessment and identify the best ways to remove conventional and chemical munitions.	By the end of 2025	COM, MS
	In areas where CMP is implemented			
	1.1.27	Step up the fight against illegal and illicit activities at sea, including drug trafficking, in the context of CMP	On a rolling basis	MS, EEAS
	Gulf of Guinea			

⁴ Article 71 of UfM SBE Declaration: Ministers welcome the active role taken by the MedCGFF in enhancing regional cooperation and promoting understanding of maritime issues of mutual importance and of common interest related to coast guard functions across borders and sectors, both civil and military, and invite the forum to develop training activities and further facilitate exchange of information, expertise, technical assistance, training and best practices to address illicit activities at sea.

	1.1.28	Maintain support for the Yaoundé Architecture for maritime security, including through the Gulf of Guinea Regional Information Network (GoGIN) programme and improve the rule of law and national legal frameworks in the region, including through the ongoing SWAIMS and PASSMAR programmes, until their completion in 2024, and subsequently through the successor regional programme on maritime security, as well as WeCAPS and GoGIN.	Rolling basis	MS, COM, EEAS, EMSA
	1.1.29	Reinforce coherence between EU institutions and EU MS actions, in particular through the implementation the CMP in the Gulf of Guinea.	Ongoing	MS, EEAS
	Indo-Pacific			
	1.1.30	Improve information sharing mechanisms and enable connections between maritime information fusion centres by developing and expanding the use of CRIMARIO's IORIS platform and the SHARE.IT initiative.		MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.31	Conduct joint exercises and port calls with Indo-Pacific partners, preferably using IORIS as a collaborative tool.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EEAS
	1.1.32	Ensure coherence of EU MS actions with those of relevant Commission and HR services and agencies, including through the CMP in the North-western Indian Ocean.	As of 2023	
	1.1.33	Step up cooperation on maritime security with international and regional organisations, in particular the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), including seeking to obtain the status of Dialogue Partner in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).	As of 2023	
	1.1.34	Continue supporting the maritime security architecture in the Western Indian Ocean based on the MASE programme and on the Djibouti Code of Conduct through the upcoming regional programme on maritime security in sub-Saharan Africa.	As of 2024	
1.2 Promote respect of International Law and fight against illicit activities at sea	Promote compliance with the UNCLOS and other international instruments related to maritime security			
	1.2.1	Encourage the signature and ratification of international instruments related to maritime security, notably UNCLOS, and promote compliance, and sharing of best practices with coastal states and partners in implementing international law relevant for maritime security in relevant fora.	Rolling basis as of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS,

	1.2.2	Cooperate with partners countries to share best practices and confidence-building measures to help implement international law in relations with such partner countries.	Rolling basis as of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
	Promote and develop aspects of maritime security under the IMO and EU legal frameworks			
	1.2.3	Cooperate with partner countries to tackle maritime security issues by ensuring, for instance, compliance with IMO legal instruments, in particular to implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.	Rolling basis	MS, COM, EMSA
	1.2.4	Promote and develop COM MARSEC guidelines, including guidelines on cybersecurity, in line with IMO regulations, to promote port and ship security control functions.	Rolling basis	MS, COM, EMSA
	1.2.5	Implement, maintain a sufficient number of Commission maritime security inspections as a regular annual activity (to monitor the application of EU Maritime Security legislation in MS); continue to explore ways to enhance maritime security in domains like passenger ships or cyber-security.	Rolling basis	MS, COM, EMSA
	Support the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) in line with the EU consolidated approach and best practices.			
	1.2.6	Continue to support MS in joint and fisheries control operations while implementing EFCA joint deployment plans to enable the permanent exchange of information and intelligence and control activities, planned on the basis of risk assessment results.	Rolling basis, ongoing	MS, COM, EFCA, EMSA
	1.2.7	Promote inter-agency cooperation, including exchange of data, to improve monitoring, control and surveillance and to support fisheries authorities (including national and regional fisheries monitoring centres), in enforcing applicable regional and national legislation.	Ongoing	MS, COM, EFCA, EMSA, FRONTEX
	1.2.8	Support MS coast guard and naval forces in providing services in relevant RFMOs convention areas, to ensure the safety and security of seafarers, fishing vessels and fleets (e.g., from piracy), and to better control and eliminate forced and severe labour abuses at sea.	Rolling basis, as of 2023	MS, COM
	1.2.9	Take action to control and eliminate forced and severe labour abuses at sea.	Rolling basis, as of 2023	MS, COM

	Strengthening border controls and combating cross-border criminal activities such as smuggling migrants or goods, and trafficking of human beings, with emphasis on remote parts of the EU which are particularly affected by migration pressure			
	1.2.10	Develop a coherent and robust response to counter the instrumentalisation of migration by sea and to deter, dismantle and prosecute criminal networks smuggling migrants and trafficking human beings.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS, Frontex, Europol, Eurojust
	1.2.11	Taking advantage of the full implementation of EBCG Regulation ⁵ and the structured cooperation between relevant actors (e.g. EUROPOL, INTERPOL, UNODC and MAOC-N), and in view of supporting the activities of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), enhance risk analysis to identify maritime areas and ports to be monitored, as well as vessels and aircraft to be tracked, for the purposes of combatting irregular immigration or cross-border criminal activities and networks.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EMSA, Frontex
	1.2.12	Create and maintain an EU situational picture including the pre-frontier area, based on information exchange, risk analysis and pro-active aerial surveillance and patrolling.	As of 2024	MS, Frontex

Strategic Objective 2. Cooperate with partners

Objectives	Actions		Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors
2.1 Boost cooperation with like-minded and strategic partners	Boost cooperation with like-minded and strategic partners			
	2.1.1	Increase EU participation in SHADE mechanisms in the maritime domain. Participate in the work of G7++FOGG (Friends of the Gulf of Guinea) and its sub working groups. Participate in the work of in the work of GoG SHADE and its sub working groups.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023	MS, EEAS, COM

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2019/1896

	2.1.2	Enhance dialogue and cooperation with third countries and international partners on maritime security issues of common interest such as surveillance and protection of critical maritime infrastructure	As of 2023	MS, EEAS, COM
	2.1.3	Support partner countries in building their capabilities for maritime governance, rule of law and their military and naval capabilities, including through the use of the European Peace Facility.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
	Enhance cooperation and increase operational interactions with all partners at sea			
	2.1.4	Deploy EU liaison officers in regional maritime information fusion centres in maritime areas of interest, to facilitate the exchange of information and cooperation between the EU and its partners and, where appropriate, to evaluate the feasibility of a direct connection of these fusion centres with relevant EU maritime surveillance systems	As of 2023	MS, EEAS
	2.1.5	Promote the use of IORIS/YARIS platforms by MS naval assets deployed in CMP for external communication and in exercises with coastal states and partners.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023	MS, EEAS, EDA
	2.1.6	Set up civilian collaborative tools between maritime operations carried out by EU MS and EU Agencies.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EEAS, EDA, EMSA, EUROPOL
	Mainstream maritime security into relations with partner countries and regional organisations			
	2.1.7	Develop links with partner countries and regional organisations by engaging in joint projects related to maritime security and safety, as appropriate.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
2.2 Work with non-EU partners to step up maritime surveillance	2.1.8	Develop coast guard cooperation in the framework of existing or upcoming working arrangements and status agreements with partner countries, including for strengthening patrolling of maritime borders and pre-frontier areas.	As of 2023	MS, EEAS, Frontex
	Work with non-EU partners on interoperability solutions for sharing maritime surveillance information			
	2.2.1	Support the Djibouti Code of Conduct countries by creating National Maritime Information Sharing Centres and improving their maritime surveillance capabilities.	Cover 50% of the countries by end 2024 and 100% by end of 2026	COM, EEAS

	2.2.2	Improve information exchange with partner countries in the framework of EUROSUR, and via the activation of specific situational pictures (Article 27 of the EBCG 2.0 Regulation).	By the end of 2024	MS, COM, EEAS, EDA, Frontex
	Strengthen maritime security architectures and inter-agency cooperation in sea basins and maritime areas of strategic interest			
	2.2.3	Support maritime capacity building and enhance maritime domain awareness in the Indo-Pacific region through MASE, until its completion in December 2023, and subsequently through the successor regional programme on maritime security, starting in 2024, as well as the CRIMARIO programmes, including the IORIS platform.	On a rolling basis	COM, EEAS
	2.2.4	Support implementation of the Yaoundé maritime security architecture in the Gulf of Guinea region through the Gulf of Guinea Interregional Network, especially the YARIS platform.		COM, EEAS
2.3 Enhance cooperation at bilateral and multilateral level	Enhance cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels			
	2.3.1	Build upon the Joint Declarations to deepen dialogue with NATO on strands of maritime cooperation (under the framework of the common set of proposals endorsed by the EU and NATO).	As of 2023	MS, EEAS, EDA
	2.3.2	Strengthen cooperation with the IMO and Regional Sea Conventions to counter threats of intentional, unlawful acts that could affect ships and port facilities globally.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EMSA, HELCOM, OSPAR, Barcelona Convention

Strategic Objective 3. Lead in maritime domain awareness

Objectives	Actions	Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors
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3.1. Enhance the EU's maritime domain awareness	Ensure secure and rapid information exchange between all related sectors and systems across the EU and EFTA			
	3.1.1	Launch the CISE operational phase, including implementation of the CISE classified network.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EMSA ⁶
	3.1.2	Encourage/incentivise Member States in specific coast guard and military authorities to join the CISE community.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023	COM, EMSA
	3.1.3	Use CISE to exchange maritime surveillance information, to boost resilience and protect critical maritime infrastructure (e.g. subsea cables, pipelines, and offshore renewable sites).	As of 2024	MS, COM, EDA, SatCen, EMSA
	3.1.4	Consider the use of CISE to exchange information in the context of the inter-agency cooperation, in complement to the networks already in place.	On a rolling basis, once CISE is operational.	MS, EFCA, EMSA and FRONTEX ECGFF
	3.1.5	Explore the possibility of setting up a programme on MSA for defence, whilst ensuring synchronisation with relevant civil stakeholders.	By 2024	MS, EDA
	Strengthening information sharing between civil and military maritime authorities			
	3.1.6	Strengthen MARSUR and ensure operational information exchange between the MARSUR Network and CISE (including classified and unclassified information).	End of 2024	COM, EMSA, EDA, SatCen, MS
	Enhance maritime surveillance and information exchange, using space-based capabilities, RPAS and other emerging technologies, including for the protection of external EU borders			
	3.1.7	Enable the exchange of relevant information between space-based capabilities and maritime surveillance instruments, including CISE and MARSUR.	End of 2024	MS, COM, EMSA, EDA, ESA, SatCen

⁶ The operational phase and the timing of each action listed in this action plan are subject to activation of the task, following EMSA Board approval.

	3.1.8	Make full use of the existing and future capabilities and services of the EU space programmes, including the Earth Observation component (Copernicus, including its marine service - CMEMS), Galileo (and its threat response system) and EGNOS, as well as IRIS ⁷ , including for the purposes of maritime surveillance, monitoring of the marine environment and climate change.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS, EMSA, EFCA, SatCen
	3.1.9	Promote space R&I for maritime surveillance applications, including through the participation of key players and industry, along with the EU Satellite Centre and the Copernicus Security Strategic Research Agenda.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EMSA, Frontex, SatCen
	3.1.10	Improve the integration of space-based technology with remotely piloted aircraft systems as well as radar stations, maritime patrol aircraft, and seaborne (manned and unmanned) means by using innovative, cyber-resilient tools.	On a rolling basis as of 2023	MS, EMSA, Frontex, SatCen
	3.1.11	Step up surveillance by coastal and offshore patrol vessels and complement this with digitally networked high-end naval platforms, including unmanned platforms.	Pilot to be implemented by 2025	MS, COM, EEAS, EDA, Frontex
	3.1.12	Member States to systematically make use of innovative solutions (technology and knowledge) resulting from EU civil security R&I on maritime security funded under the Border and External Security calls of Horizon 2020, as well as relevant calls under Horizon Europe.	As of 2023	MS
	3.1.13	Consider deploying stationary radar, optical satellite and hyperspectral devices in strategic locations, to help MS better detect and identify maritime security threats.	As of 2023	MS
	3.1.14	In the framework of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum and the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum, contribute to bolstering maritime domain awareness and EU and international cooperation through the exchange of best practices.	As of 2023	MS, EEAS, COM, EFCA, EMSA, FRONTEX
	Development of Maritime Surveillance Capabilities			

⁷ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/welcome-iris2-infrastructure-resilience-interconnectivity-and-security-satellite-2022-11-17_en

	3.1.15	Development of the design of equipment and systems such as a small satellite mission to be implemented in the frame of a constellation, coastal radar networks, unmanned semi-fixed platforms at sea.	As of 2023	COM, MS
	3.1.16	Promote Maritime Surveillance Capabilities development of a Naval Collaborative Surveillance capability.	As of 2024	COM, MS
3.2 Work with relevant non-EU partners on interoperability solutions for sharing maritime surveillance information	Work with relevant non-EU partners on interoperability solutions for sharing maritime surveillance information			
	3.2.1	Support maritime capacity building and heighten maritime domain awareness in the Indo-Pacific region through MASE, until its completion in December 2023, and subsequently through the successor regional programme on maritime security, starting in 2024, as well as the CRIMARIO programmes, including the IORIS platform.	On a rolling basis	COM, EEAS
	3.2.2	Support implementation of the Yaoundé maritime security architecture in the Gulf of Guinea region through the Gulf of Guinea Interregional Network, especially the YARIS platform.		COM, EEAS

Strategic objective 4. Manage risks and threats

Objectives	Actions		Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors
4.1 Further develop awareness and preparedness to tackle threats linked to climate change and environmental degradation	4.1.1	Strengthen coordination and intervention capabilities in the event of incidents and disasters at sea, with due consideration for EMSA-hosted systems and for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, and by strengthening and/or developing an integrated approach and rapid reaction to manage maritime incidents.	By the end of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS, EDA, EMSA

	4.1.2	Increase knowledge on the effects of climate change, sea level rise, storm surges, and environmental degradation on maritime security and address related risks and threats.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023.	COM, EEAS, MS, EDA, SatCen
	4.1.3	Strengthen maritime domain awareness, early warning and strategic foresight on the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on maritime security, including by facilitating the collection and exchange of ocean observation data.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023.	COM, EEAS, MS, EDA, Frontex, SatCen
	4.1.4	Expand training and exercises run by competent authorities to train in preparing for and responding to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation on maritime security.	On a rolling basis, as of 2024	MS, COM, EEAS
	4.1.5	Contribute to the development of the Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO), with the maritime security perspective, to address the mutual impacts of maritime security and of a changing environment and climate.	On a rolling basis, as of 2024	MS, COM
4.2 Increase the resilience and protection of critical maritime infrastructure (e.g. gas pipelines, power / communication cables, ports, offshore energy facilities, LNG terminals, and floating storage and regasification units), and maritime assets	Strengthen the resilience and protection of critical maritime infrastructure and maritime assets, mindful of regional specificities and threat levels, and encourage MS to carry out joint stress tests of critical infrastructure based on the common stress test principles developed at Union level			
	4.2.1	Draw up a risk assessment and contingency plans/disaster recovery plans (EU level/national level) for critical maritime infrastructure, without prejudice to the Directive on the Resilience of Critical Entities (e.g. on the risk assessment of critical entities in the transport sector and water transport subsector).	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS, EUMS; EDA, EMSA
	4.2.2	Conduct stress tests for maritime infrastructure, based on Council recommendation 15623/22, using where applicable, the standards on stress test methodology for critical infrastructure (CI) developed under the INFRASTRESS project.	As of 2023	MS, COM, Frontex

	4.2.3	Conduct regular, full-scale, live maritime exercises at EU level, focused inter alia on harbour protection, addressing cyber and hybrid threats, also involving the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, where appropriate.	Annual basis	MS, COM, EEAS, ECGFF, EDA, Frontex, ENISA
	4.2.4	Step up cooperation between MS, with the support of relevant EU Agencies, to develop a regional permanent surveillance plan for underwater and offshore infrastructure, aiming at deterring terrorist action against such infrastructure. Step up cooperation on assessing incidents; cooperation between civil and military authorities, and on sharing assets and exchanging information for the protection of underwater and offshore infrastructure.	As of 2024	MS, EDA, Frontex, EMSA
	4.2.5	Develop/deploy specialised vessels and other means (RPAS, satellite imagery) to patrol and protect critical maritime infrastructure, including multi-role survey vessels.	Deploy existing means by the end of 2023. Develop further means/assets by 2025.	MS, EDA, Frontex, SatCen
	4.2.6	Conduct studies on the protection of critical maritime infrastructure, also to support the relevant CARD recommendations.	By 2025	MS, EDA
	4.2.7	Strengthen the competences of national authorities on ship and port security, in accordance with SOLAS, the ISPS Code, Regulation 725/2004 ⁸ and 2005/65/EC ⁹ .	On a rolling basis, as of 2023.	MS, EMSA
4.3 Enhance cyber security	Assess cyber risks and identify suitable security measures			
	4.3.1	Consider developing further guidance to the maritime sector, particularly on ports in the context of the NIS2 Directive.	As of 2024	MS, COM

⁸ Regulation (EC) No 725/2004

⁹ Directive 2005/65/EC

	4.3.2	Further develop common cyber-surveillance capabilities for maritime administrations / coast guard authorities. Develop the maritime sector's ability to face cyber threats by encouraging the exchange of best practices and the development of guidance between maritime actors, as well as further addressing cyber issues in the security and safety domains at the level of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).	As of 2024	MS, COM
	4.3.3	Develop cooperation on cybersecurity in the maritime domain with like-minded non-EU countries, at bilateral or multilateral level.	As of 2023	MS, COM, ENISA
	4.3.4	Improve the resilience of maritime administrations by running regular training sessions on cybersecurity crisis management, and develop a culture of joint incident reaction, including radio frequency interference.	On a rolling basis, as of 2024.	MS, COM, ENISA, EMSA, Frontex
	4.3.5	Improve knowledge on cybersecurity and further develop a complete mapping exercise for cybersecurity in shipping to identify responsibilities.	As of 2024	MS, COM, EMSA, ENISA
4.4 Strengthen the EU's resilience and improve response to interference and manipulation of information, and other hybrid threats concerning maritime security	Tackle foreign and domestic interference and manipulation of information, and other hybrid threats related to the maritime domain			
	4.4.1	Implement maritime-related counter narratives, including by providing operational authorities (Ops Commanders) with the delegation of powers needed to tackle disinformation and implement counteractions.	As of 2023	MS, EEAS and EU naval operations
	4.4.2	Promote EU coast guard cooperation on tackling hybrid threats in the maritime domain.	On a rolling basis, as of 2023.	MS, EMSA, Frontex, Coast guard fora
4.5 Assess the potential security impacts of foreign direct investment in maritime infrastructure	4.5.1	Assess investment in maritime infrastructure by non-EU entities in the context of the EU cooperation mechanism on the basis of Regulation (EU) 2019/452 ¹⁰ .	Ongoing	MS, COM

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2019/452

4.6 Develop a comprehensive response to UXO in the sea basins around the EU	4.6.1	Building on UXO-related pilot activities carried out in the Baltic Sea, draw up a comprehensive plan for sea basins around the EU to map the type, location and quantity of UXO and chemicals from military activities, as part of the effort to minimise their environmental impact, ensure security of sea lanes and facilitate the development of maritime economic activities.	As of 2023	MS, COM
4.7 Step up action to prepare for acts of terrorism, unlawful acts, threats to freedom of navigation and hybrid threats	4.7.1	Implement sufficient maritime security inspections and ensure that ships, ports and port facilities in the EU are properly secured and protected, in accordance with applicable international and EU legislation.	Ongoing on an annual basis	MS, COM
	4.7.2	Conclude the COM risk assessment on improving passenger ship security, to identify solutions to counter shared risks and threats to passenger ship security in the EU.	Ongoing	COM
	4.7.3	Conduct a study to map undersea communication cable infrastructures, related capacities and redundancies, vulnerabilities, threats and risks to service availability, the impact of downtime of undersea cables for Member States and the Union as a whole, as well as risk mitigation, and propose recommendations to ensure a higher resilience/redundancy, if needed.	As of 2023	MS, COM
4.8 Strengthen the capacity to contribute to the fight against organised and serious international threats and illicit activities to increase the EU's internal security	4.8.1	Improve and increase the capacity of MS, with the support of concerned agencies, to prevent, detect and combat illegal trafficking performed through sea transport, or at sea (such as environmental crimes, trafficking of arms and narcotics, smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings, IUU, etc.), notably by developing actions in the framework of EMPACT.	As of 2023	MS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex, COM, EUROPOL
	4.8.2	Explore the possibility to further use passenger information provided by maritime transport operators, considering existing international, EU and national rules, to enhance security at the external borders and within the EU.	As of 2023	MS, COM, Frontex, Europol

Strategic Objective 5. Enhance capabilities

Objectives	Actions		Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors
5.1 Develop the capabilities necessary to ensure EU surface superiority	Strengthen future surface capabilities and tackle the shortfalls in strategic enablers			
	5.1.1	Implement the CARD Focus Area European Patrol Class Surface Ships.	By 2025	MS, EDA
	5.1.2	Develop operational scenarios for force protection and common force protection requirements for European naval forces.	By 2025	MS, EDA
	5.1.3	Initiate activities to increase the efficiency of propulsion, energy production, storage and management systems and logistics by implementing new technologies.		
	5.1.4	Support maritime military mobility by approving a technical arrangement for cross-border movement permission arrangements in the maritime domain.		
	5.1.5	Develop common requirements and specifications for future unmanned systems, ensuring that the systems are interoperable.		
	5.1.6	Provide support as requested by MS on PESCO projects, including the European Patrol Corvette.	As of 2023	MS, COM
	5.1.7	Promote actual capability development and obtainment of the First of Class ship of a European Patrol Corvette		
	5.1.8	Promote actual capability development of a medium-size semi-autonomous surface vessel with modular mission payloads	By 2024	MS, COM
	5.1.9	Promote the development of future naval capabilities, i.e. a functional smart system of systems for naval future platforms	By 2025	MS, COM
	5.1.10	Promote actual capability development of a Naval Collaborative Engagement based on the Naval Collaborative Surveillance	By 2026	MS, COM
5.2 Strengthen	Enhance EU underwater capabilities including mine countermeasures			

underwater capabilities	5.2.1	Develop an EU concept of operations for mine countermeasures to support the decision-making process for the safe navigation and operation of marine vessels and unmanned systems, including utilisation of opportunities from the development and research actions of the European Defence Fund.	By 2025	MS, COM, EDA
	5.2.2	Continue developing targeted PESCO projects (DIVEPACK, EUNDDC and MAS MCM), and utilise the support of collaborative and joint research and development from the European Defence Fund and projects in its precursor programme, the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP)		
	5.2.3	Improve anti-submarine warfare by boosting capabilities for submarine detection in terms of both technology and procedures.	By 2025	MS, EDA
	5.2.4	Promote the development of technologies related to underwater manned-unmanned teaming swarming and underwater observation, detection, acquisition and communications.	As of 2023	COM, MS
	5.2.5	Promote the technological developments and solutions for a first phase of the mine countermeasures stand-off concept.	By 2024	COM, MS
	5.2.6	Promote the development of capabilities for securing critical seabed infrastructure as well as capabilities for combating underwater swarms consisting of heterogeneous unmanned underwater vehicles.	By 2024	COM, MS
	5.2.7	Promote actual capability development of a heavy multi-purpose mine sweeping drone.	By 2025	COM, MS
5.3 Support European navies and coast guards in developing critical technologies and industrial capabilities	Identify technologies and research activities in response to capability needs, in line with the EDA's Overarching Strategic Research Agenda			
	5.3.1	Promote research into innovative solutions on power generation, storage, management and distribution needed to meet high energy demands required by new systems.	By 2025	MS, COM, EDA
	5.3.2	Increase autonomous coordination of manned-unmanned teaming, including swarm technologies.		
	5.3.3	Ensure the surveillance and protection of high-speed, resilient and robust underwater communication networks, with the involvement of industry and third countries where appropriate.		
	5.3.4	Research and integrate disruptive technologies including artificial intelligence, big data technologies and quantum technologies.		

	5.3.5	Research and develop common ship digital architecture and infrastructure.		
	5.3.6	Increase vessel automation by deploying resilient automated platforms and systems with reduced crew and decision support systems.		
	Identify and cooperatively address critical dependencies affecting the European defence technological and industrial base			
	5.3.7	By carrying out work on Key Strategic Activities, raise awareness and promote a common understanding of MS, EU institutions and defence industrial actors about existing shortages and gaps in terms of industrial and technological areas, as well as skills gaps that could undermine the EU's freedom of action.		
	5.3.8	Promote cooperation among MS by developing projects funded by the European Defence Fund and promote joint procurement of naval capabilities, including through EDIRPA.		
	Align navy and coast guard activities with the objectives of the EU Green Deal.			
	5.3.9	Foster co-existence between offshore renewable energy projects and defence activities by implementing suitable solutions in maritime areas reserved or used for military activities, where suitability for deploying offshore renewable projects or other sustainable uses has been demonstrated.	By 2025	MS, COM, EEAS, EDA
	5.3.10	Develop renewable technologies (renewable fuel, retrofit engines, electrification etc.), suitable for military use in the maritime domain.		

Strategic Objective 6. Educate and train

Objectives	Actions		Timeline <i>Where applicable</i>	Concerned Actors
6.1 Share education, training and skills across sectors, MS, and partner countries	6.1.1	Build on the work carried out by the agencies (EFCA, EMSA, Frontex) to develop capacity and specialised training under the tripartite working arrangement to organise cross-sectoral maritime security training on law enforcement, military, border control, coast guards, cyber security, protection of critical maritime infrastructure etc.	As of 2023	MS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex, ECGFF
	6.1.2	Promote the participation of women in educational and training in maritime security.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS

	6.1.3	Foster cooperation and training, including in the context of the ECGFF, with MS and NATO-accredited centres, centres of excellence etc.		MS, EEAS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex
	6.1.4	Develop a military international naval semester in the framework of the ‘European initiative for the exchange of young officers’ (EMILYO – Military Erasmus ¹¹).	As of 2023	MS, EEAS (ESDC)
	6.1.5	Conduct joint exercises with non-EU partners to boost interoperability.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EEAS
6.2 Capitalise on the work carried out by agencies and fora	6.2.1	Continue ad hoc participation in the COASTEX exercise based on MS planning, improve and diversify COASTEX and regularly carry out relevant activities in the sea basins around the EU.	Ongoing	MS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex, ECGFF
	6.2.2	Carry out capacity building activities while implementing MMO in selected sea basins around the EU, at the request of MS and building on the work of EMSA, EFCA and FRONTEX.	Ongoing	MS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex
	6.2.3	Share the lessons learnt from running the Sectoral Qualification Framework for coast guards and provide guidance, assistance and support in implementing good practices, including on cyber security.	On a rolling basis	MS, EFCA, EMSA, Frontex
6.3. Strengthen cyber and hybrid security skills and curricula in the maritime domain	6.3.1	Take advantage of the knowledge and training provided by the HCoE Helsinki, including their maritime security work strand, also on the basis of the HCoE Handbook on Maritime Hybrid Threats ¹² .	Ongoing	MS, COM, EEAS, HCoE
	6.3.2	Strengthen cyber-, hybrid- and space-related security skills by supporting targeted training courses on cyber and digital skills for the maritime domain.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EMSA
	6.3.3	Boost cyber and hybrid security skills through targeted curricula to be developed by competent institutions and/or authorities of the Member States, mindful that EMSA has been tasked by Member States and the European Commission to develop a course on maritime cybersecurity for 2023.	As of 2023	MS, COM, EMSA
6.4 Capacity building	6.4.1	Conduct targeted training programmes open to non-EU partners to tackle existing and emerging threats to maritime security.	Ongoing	MS, COM, EEAS, EMSA,

¹¹ <http://www.emilyo.eu/>; EMILYO is not linked to the Erasmus+ Programme.

¹² The HCoE handbook is the basis for relevant training events for participating states, EU and NATO operators and policymakers.

		Promote educational and training activities in partner countries to attract women to relevant sectors, including coast guard functions, also involving relevant EU agencies.		FRONTEX, ECGFF
	6.4.2	Further develop the military international naval semester, including a young officers' exchange scheme.	As of 2023	MS, EEAS
	6.4.3	Conduct civil-military exercises based on scenarios involving shared jurisdiction or shared use of capabilities.	As of 2023	

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

A

ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

B

C

CARD: Coordinated Annual Review on Defence

CIS: Critical Infrastructure

CISE: Common Information Sharing Environment

COM: European Commission Services

Copernicus: European Earth Observation Programme

CRIMARIO: Critical Maritime Routes Indo-Pacific

CSDP: Common Security and Defence Policy

D

DTO: digital twin of the ocean

E

EBCGA/Frontex: European Border and Coast Guard Agency

ECGFA: European Coast Guard Functions Academy

ECGFF: European Coast Guard Functions Forum

EDA: European Defence Agency

EDIRPA: European Defence Industry Reinforcement through common Procurement Act

EEAS: European External Action Service

EFCA: European Fisheries Control Agency

EGNOS: European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service

EMPACT: European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats

EMSA: European Maritime Safety Agency

ENISA: European Union Agency for Cybersecurity

EU: European Union

EUBAM Libya: EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya

EUMSS: European Union Maritime Security Strategy

EUNAVFOR: European Union-led naval force

EUROPOL: European Police Agency

EUROSUR: European Border Surveillance System

G

GALILEO: European Satellite Navigation System

H

HCoE: European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, Helsinki

HELCOM: Helsinki Commission - Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

I

IMO: International Maritime Organisation

INTERPOL: International Criminal Police Organisation

IORA: Indian Ocean Rim Association

ISPS Code: International Ship and Port Facility Security Code

IUU fishing: illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

K

M

MAOC (N): Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre (Narcotics)

MARSUR: Defence project on maritime surveillance

MASE: Programme to Promote Regional Maritime Security

MAS MCM: Maritime (semi-) Autonomous Systems for Mine Countermeasures

MDA: maritime domain awareness

MedCGFF: Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum

MS: Member States

MSCO: Maritime Staff Operators Course

N

NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

NIS Directive: Directive concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the Union

O

OSPAR: Oslo Paris Commission

OSRA: Overarching Strategic Research Agenda

P

PASSMAR project: The support program for the maritime safety and security strategy in Central Africa

PESCO: Permanent Structured Cooperation

R

RFMOs: Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

RPAS: Remotely Piloted Aircraft System

R&I: research and innovation

S

SAR: search and rescue activities

SatCen: European Union Satellite Centre

SHADE: Shared Awareness and Deconfliction

SOLAS: International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea

SWAIMS project: Support to West Africa Integrated Maritime Security

U

UN: United Nations

UNCLOS: United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

UNFSA: United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement

UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

W

WeCAPS: Strengthening the security and safety of ports in West and Central Africa