NOTE FOR THE FILE

Subject: Meeting of the Maritime Directors – Brussels, 16 October 2015

Summary points

1. Simplification and digitalisation

• Update on the National Single Window

• Progress on information sharing – Blue Belt / Cargo eManifest – Information and Monitoring System on port reception facilities

• Digital Transport & Logistics Forum

The Commission presented an update on the NSW and the ongoing work on the Blue Belt initiative and the possible development of the eManifest.

Maritime Directors described the progress made at national level and concurred that the shipping industry is calling for harmonisation at EU level.

The Commission presented the developments related to port reception facilities to facilitate implementation of the directive and the objective of risk-based enforcement via EMSA systems (SSN and Thetis).

Finally the Commission explained the scope of the Digital Transport and Logistics Forum to look at issues in a multimodal perspective and presented the ongoing work in IMO on eNavigation.

2. Passenger Ship Safety REFIT – Results and next steps

The Commission presented the report and the analysis and results contained therein and asked Directors to give their views regarding a forum for consultation and the possibility of developing guidelines or a code for small vessels.

The reaction of maritime directors to the REFIT was overwhelmingly positive. They thanked the Commission for the quality of the work carried out. Most of them were also ready to contribute to the work on a possible code for small vessels and welcomed a consultation platform for experts.
3. **IMO matters - Data collection system for GHG emissions**

The Commission presented the state of play of discussions and the results of the intersessional meeting held in September at IMO.

Maritime directors agreed with the need for a mandatory system but insisted that flexibility was needed on the data to be provided.

4. **Maritime transport policy**
   - Update on the mid-term review of the Maritime Transport Strategy
   - Possible Maritime year 2017

The Commission asked maritime directors to share their contributions in writing.

Besides competitiveness and attractiveness of seafarers' professions several maritime directors mentioned the need to promote an efficient use of limited national enforcement resources and to promote the work of EU agencies in the framework of the European agenda for migration. MT referred to its forthcoming Presidency the 1st semester 2017 and welcomed the possibility of a maritime transport focus.

5. **Cooperation on Coastguard functions at EU level**

The Commission presented existing support by EMSA to Frontex and the recent European Council conclusions for the development of a European Border and Coast Guard system.

Several Maritime directors underlined the added value of cross sector and cross border cooperation at operational level.

6. **Evaluation of EMSA**

The Commission presented the opportunity of starting the evaluation process and recalled the role of the EMSA Board.

7. **AOB**
   - 14th Implementation meeting under the EU-China Maritime Agreement (Autumn 2017) – Venue (Expression of interest from Member States)

CY made a provisional expression of interest to host the next meeting of the EU-China maritime dialogue.

NL presented its priorities for maritime transport during their forthcoming presidency.