

MSI Self Assessment NAVAREA III

Submitted by SPAIN

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides an overview of the activities within NAVAREA III

Action to be taken: Paragraph 10

Related documents: None.

1. Background:

Radio Navigational Warnings within NAVAREA III region are sent from the Spanish Hydrographic Institute to (LES) Burum Land Earth Station (LES), in The Netherlands using a TCP/IP (Internet) connection and a Telnet Terminal. From Burum those messages are sent to AOR-E SafetyNet Satellite for broadcasting over the whole region.

NAVAREA III Region covers the Mediterranean and the Black Seas.

Broadcasting times: 1200Z, 2400Z (AOR-E).

Meteorological information: Submitted by METAREA III Coordinator (Greece).

Satellite Service Provider: Stratos Mobile.

2. Comments:

The table below shows the number of NAVAREA III warnings broadcasted during the last three years.

	2005	2006	2007
NAVAREA III	724	617	521

3. NAVTEX Coverage:

Within NAVAREA III region there are 24 operational NAVTEX stations broadcasting in 518KHz. (International Service) (17 of these stations are in the Mediterranean Sea, 6 in the Black Sea and one in the Caspian Sea, just after Fereydoon Kenar (G) station in Iran became operational this same year. There is one more station in the Caspian Sea, Astrakhan (Russian Federation) under NAVAREA XIII jurisdiction.

4. Operational Issues:

4.1. Status of the implementation of new NAVTEX Stations in Western and Central Mediterranean.

Italian authorities are doing their best establishing three new NAVTEX Stations in new locations (Pessaro, La Maddalena and Calabria) before they close down the current four Stations in Rome, Augusta, Cagliari and Trieste. The position of these three new stations can be seen in Annex I. Current situation regarding the new stations is as follows:

According to the co-ordination plan for amending NAVTEX coverage, Italy has implemented the following two of the three new NAVTEX stations proposed:

“La Maddalena” isle, in coordinates 41°13'43"N - 009°23'24"E

“Mondolfo” (Pesaro), in coordinates 43°44'52"N - 013°08'29"E

At this moment the stations are under test.

A third station, placed in “Lampedusa”, was planned to remove according to the NAVTEX co-ordination plan. In December 2007, Italy contracted the removal of the Lampedusa station in a new area located in “Sellia Marina” (Calabria).

At the moment, the completion of the program has been foreseen within the next month of July/August 2008, but there have been some problems regarding the limiting exposure to electromagnetic fields imposed by national legislation. Italy is going to make the maximum effort to fulfil the above mentioned plan

Hence the four existing stations (Rome, Augusta, Cagliari and Trieste) remain operational.

Tunisia is still waiting for an available B1 Character before they can set their new Station in the Cape Bon region as fully operational. They have already accomplished transmission trails.

The new NAVTEX Station of Bordj-El-Kiffan in Algeria is fully operational since August 2006.

Libya has accomplished an excellent work in order to establish a new station in Surt (Gulf of Sirte). This station will be able to cover the only piece of the Mediterranean Sea that was not covered yet by NAVTEX transmissions. NAVAREA III Co-ordinator has received all the necessary documentation from Libya authorities, and after consideration of this documentation, has circulated a proposal with the limits of the new service area of Surt Station to the neighbouring countries for their approval, with copy to the NAVTEX Panel.

Figure in Annex depicts the limits of the proposed service area for Surt NAVTEX Station.

On July 24th, NAVAREA III received the Greek Approval for this proposal. We are waiting for the commentaries or suggestions from the other involved countries (Italy and Malta

4.2 Status of the new Sub-area in the Black Sea and Caspian Sea.

Following Agenda Item 3.2 of CPRNW-8 and Agenda Item 5.2 of CPRNW-9, NAVAREA III Co-ordinator was asked to investigate the possibility of the Black Sea becoming a sub-area within NAVAREA III.

Up to date, after the last Navigation Safety in the Black and Azov Seas Working Group (BASWG-8) meeting held in Kiev (Ukraine) in March 2008, four countries support the Russian proposal which are Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey, and one country, Ukraine, is against it.

Turkey, having volunteered to become Sub-area Co-ordinator, has been invited to attend CPRNW-10 and to bring forward enough information in order to show that they are well prepared and ready to take that role in the new Sub-area to be created in the Black Sea if a final agreement is reached in this sense.

Following Agenda Item 5.2 of CPRNW-9, NAVAREA III Co-ordinator was asked to investigate the possibility of the Caspian Sea becoming a Sub-area within NAVAREA III.

After contacting by e-mail with all the bordering countries of the Caspian Sea, NAVAREA III has just received an answer from the Republic of Azerbaijan in which we were told that this country is not able to become Sub-Area coordinator but they offer their collaboration with the country that finally may take this role.

4.3 Turkish proposal for modification of the NAVTEX Service areas in the Aegean Sea and Eastern Mediterranean.

NAVAREA III has received a proposal from Turkey requesting consideration of new limits of the service areas in the Aegean Sea (Izmir) and Eastern Mediterranean (Antalya), although in their letter they do not say if they have asked for initial approval of the neighbouring countries to this proposal. NAVAREA III has requested Turkey to clarify certain matters in the proposal prior to circulation to the involved countries for their comments, suggestions or counter proposals. In case it is considered necessary, NAVAREA III will call for a meeting in order to establish a final agreement among the parties involved.

5. Capacity Building

On 11-13 March 2008, the Third Maritime Safety Information (MSI) Training Course to benefit countries in the area of influence of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC) was organized on the behalf of the International Hydrographic Organization's (IHO) Capacity Building Committee (CBC) and the IHO's World-Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS) Commission for the Promulgation of Radio Navigational Warnings (CPRNW). This MSI training course was intended to provide practical guidance for those who are concerned with drafting radio navigational warnings or with the issuance of MSI for the high seas. Representatives from Malta, Tunisia, Algeria, Syria, Suriname, and Spain attended. The instructors of this course were: Mr. Peter Doherty – (CPRNW Chairman and NAVAREA IV & XII Co-ordinator – USA), Mr. Keith Dominic (NGA, USA), Mr. Guy Beale (UKHO, UK) , Cdr. Juan A. Aguilar (IHM, Spain)

6. Other Activities:

Since the last CPRNW meeting, IHM has actively participated in different meetings directly related to CPRNW, such as:

- COMSAR -12 (IMO).
- NAV-54 (IMO)
- SNPWG (IHO)

Different issues affecting CPRNW have been also included in the discussions of MBSHC-15 (Malta, October 2007) and BASWG-8 (Ukraine, March 2008)

7. NAVAREA Website:

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8. NAVAREA Contact Information:

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9. Recommendations:

None.

10. Actions requested:

None.

11. Synopsis:

During this period of time since last CPRNW meeting, several countries in Central Mediterranean have been working in order to accomplish the plan agreed in Monaco, January 2006, establishing new stations in Italy and Tunisia. It is expected that shortly all these stations will become operational. Libya is also doing its best in order to establish a new station in Surt that will give full NAVTEX coverage to the Mediterranean. Discussions about the creation of new Sub-areas in the Black and Caspian Seas went on during this year and will go on during next year until a final agreement is reached. The 3rd MSI Training course took place in Cadiz, Spain in March 2008 with the objective of increasing the knowledge on the procedures of the WNWNS among the countries of this region.

ANNEX I

New NAVTEX Stations in Central Mediterranean

