

MSI Self Assessment NAVAREA III

Submitted by SPAIN

**SUMMARY**

Executive Summary: NAVAREA III provides the paper of MSI Self Assessment for WWNWS 1.

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 four years.

	2005	2006	2007	2008
NAVAREA III	724	617	521	556

### 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 last 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 (See Fig. 2)

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. At the moment, the completion of the program has been foreseen for the first semester of 2010. 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.

Libya is accomplishing an excellent work in order to establish a new station in Surt (Gulf of Sirte). Upon reception of the responses to the first proposal circulated in June 2008, listing the limits of the service area for this new station, a second proposal was circulated in May 2009. We are currently awaiting approval of this proposal by the relevant nations as a preliminary step before the new station enters into operational status. Fig. 1 shows the project for the new service area.

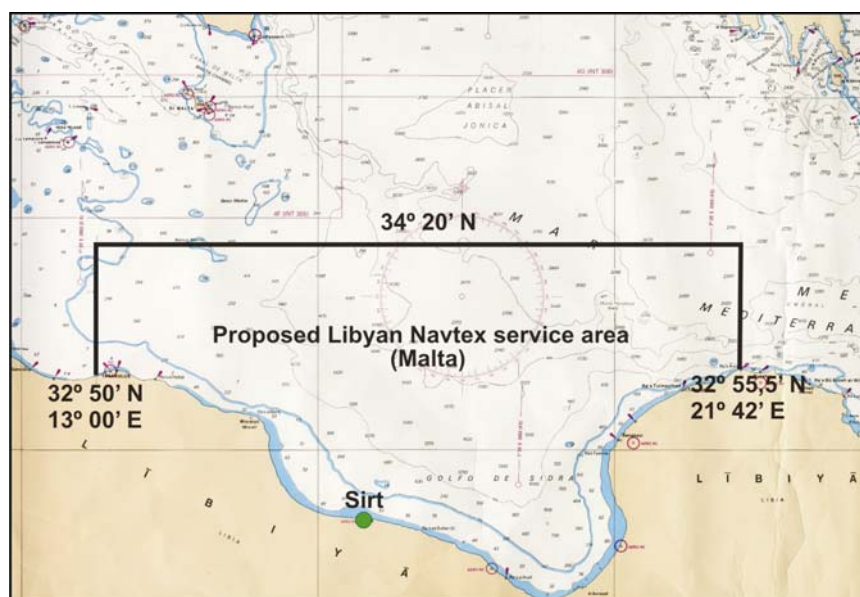


Fig. 1. Proposal for the Libyan service area

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

### BLACK 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.

During the Navigation Safety in the Black and Azov Seas Working Group (BASWG-8) meeting held in Kiev (Ukraine) in March 2008, four countries supported the Russian proposal which were Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey, and one country, Ukraine, was against it.

Turkey, having volunteered to become Sub-area Co-ordinator, was 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.

After listening to Turkey presentation, under item 3.4.5 on the Agenda of CPRNW-10, NAVAREA III Co-ordinator was tasked to request once more the approval of the bordering countries of the Black Sea on this issue before any further action is taken by CPRNW Chair.

During the last meeting of the BASWG held in Constanza, Romania, in April 2009 (BASWG-9), attendees to the meeting were requested again by the representative of NAVAREA III Co-ordinator to express once more their position on this issue. Turkey of course supports the proposal, Romania said that they need more time to reach a final position given that there are several departments involved and the decision will take some more time. They are reconsidering their previous support and perhaps they change their mind given that it is their feeling that Spain is doing its job properly and there is no need to change the current situation. Bulgaria said that it was the first time they knew about this issue and that they need more technical details before a decision is taken in their country. Ukraine continued with their position against this proposal. The Russian Federation and Georgia did not attend the meeting although they supported the proposal in the previous BASWG meeting.

The NAVAREA III representative said that he will report this situation both to PRNW and to MBSHC during the next meetings of these two groups.

### CASPIAN SEA

This meeting (NAVPAN-12) held during COMSAR-13 (London 19 to 23 January 2009), the adoption of the Caspian Sea into GMDSS. During the full session on Monday 19th, the representative for Iran stated that his country was willing to take over the role as coordinator of the sub-area for such an Inner Sea.

Representatives for the IMO Secretariat who attended the meeting informed on the results of the legal report requested in the 9th Meeting of the CPRNW (2007) to the IMO legal consulting service on this subject. This report found that GMDSS could be

established for the Caspian Sea only in the case of unanimous agreement by all bordering countries, whether they have signed the SOLAS Convention or not.

Consequently, previous to any action aimed at the establishment of such a sub-area in the Caspian Sea, IMO Secretariat accepted the suggestion by the representative for Spain to circulate a letter to all relevant countries requesting their agreement.

Upon reception of their responses, the decision of including the region into the NAVAREA III area or responsibility would be taken, and then the convenience of establishing an autonomous sub-area coordinated by Iran would be re-examined.

NAVAREA III is not aware that IMO Secretariat has circulated the aforementioned letter up to date.

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

NAVAREA III circulated the final proposal by Turkey on 14 November 2008, submitted to Greece and Cyprus with copies to the NAVTEX Panel and IHB. After they received the responses from Greece (19 December 2008) and Cyprus (15 January 2009), NAVAREA III submitted a report covering all documents related to this proposal to the NAVTEX Panel (10 March 2009) with copies to the relevant parties and IHB. The NAVTEX Panel sent a letter dated 26 March 2009 to all relevant parties, stating that as it is impossible to reach an agreement on this subject, its decision is to maintain current limits without any modification.

NAVAREA III received a letter sent by Turkey dated 11 May 2009 protesting over the contents of the letter sent to the NAVTEX Panel on 10 March, but making no mention of the final decision by this Panel on March 26th. The aforementioned letter from Turkey states that they will consider as service areas for the NAVTEX stations at Antalya and Izmir the corresponding SRR areas under Turkish responsibility in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean Seas.

5. Capacity Building

N/A.

6. Other Activities:

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

- COMSAR -13 (IMO). January, 2009
- NAVPAN-12, January 2009
- BASWG-9, April 2009

Different issues affecting CPRNW have been also included in the discussions of EAHC-10 (Lome, TOGO, October 2008).

7. NAVAREA Website:

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9. Recommendations:

None.

10. Actions requested:

The Sub-Committee is invited to note the report.

11. Synopsis:

During this period of time since last CPRNW meeting, Italy has been working in order to accomplish the plan agreed in Monaco, January 2006, establishing their new stations. It is expected that along 2010 all these stations together with the new Tunisian station 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 limits of the service area for Surt station went on during this last year. Discussions about the creation of new Sub-areas in the Black and Caspian Seas went on during this year. It seems that an agreement will be difficult to reach in the Black Sea. For the Caspian Sea, OMI Secretariat will check the position of the bordering countries about joining GMDSS before creating a sub-area in that region.

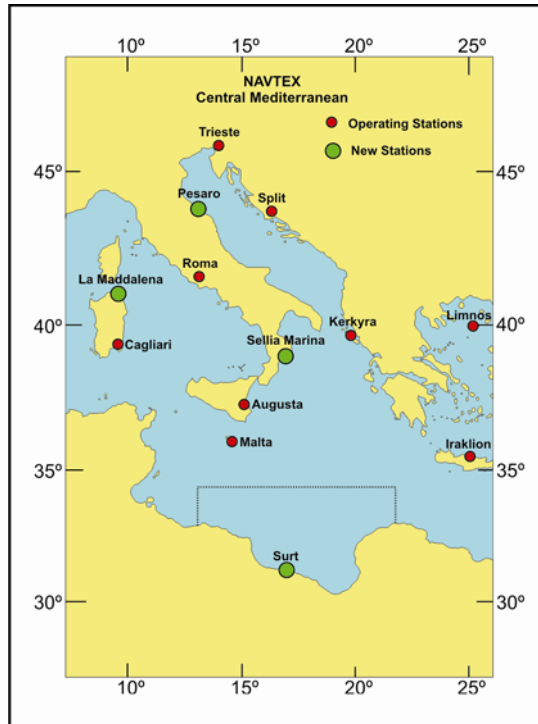


Fig. 2. Current and future NAVTEX Stations In the Central Mediterranean Sea