

## MedCruise attended the 58th SAGMAS meeting, September 2020

The 58th meeting of Stakeholders Advisory Group on Maritime Security (SAGMAS) took place on 09 September 2020 online. The meeting was chaired by Mr Christopher Ross, Deputy Director of Unit A.5 Security of the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE).

The meeting started with a welcome from the Chairman.

### **Cybersecurity: Validation of the cybersecurity toolkit for transport companies**

DG MOVE contracted with Deloitte Consulting & Advisory for the development of a transport cybersecurity toolkit aiming at raising awareness and preparedness to cyber-risks in the transport sector. Dr Massimo Felici, Cyber Security Manager at Deloitte, took the floor in order to make an update on the toolkit.

The transport and cybersecurity toolkit will contain the following information: - Cybersecurity threats and consequences that companies in the transport sector are facing and, - Good practices of cyber-hygiene and mitigation actions.

The toolkit will include general principles and guidance for generic transport staff and specific principles and guidance for staff in civil aviation, maritime, rail and road (road haulage and road passenger transport) according to their operational needs and exposures to cyber risks.

The final validation and the presentation of the project is scheduled for the end of the year.

### **Impact of the COVID-19 crisis**

The Chairman reminded the participants of the flexibility provided by the European Commission for certain aspects on maritime security, in particular, on

Regulation (EU) 2020/698 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 May 2020 laying down specific and temporary measures in view of the COVID-19 outbreak concerning the renewal or extension of certain certificates, licences and authorisations and the postponement of certain periodic checks and periodic training in certain areas of transport legislation. The Regulation, in its Article 16, gave Member States the possibility, until 1 August 2020, to request an extension of the periods and time limits set for carrying out the periodic review of port facility security assessments (Regulation (EC) No 725/2004), where a Member State considered that the application of the rules remained impracticable beyond 31 August 2020, due to measures that were taken to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19. The Chair informed that the European Commission received only the request from France. The request was authorised by the EC on 31 August 2020.

Another important development since the previous SAGMAS meeting was the publication of the COVID-19 EU Guidance for Cruise Ship Operations by EMSA and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). The objective of this Guidance is to facilitate a safe re-start of operations of cruise ships in the EU, by recommending minimum measures expected to be implemented by all those concerned. It is clearly highlighted the importance of maintaining general safety and security standards.

INTERFERRY pointed out the need of developing an additional Guidance concerning ferry ships.

### **Any other business**

Next meeting is scheduled for 12 November 2020. Time and place TBD. •