MARITIME SAFETY: new proposals to support clean and modern shipping

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75% of the EU’s external trade is seaborne
Over 800 000 ship calls to EU ports took place in 2022
15 000 vessels are inspected each year in EU/EEA ports

INCREASE MARITIME SAFETY
Objective:
Currently more than 2,000 marine accidents and incidents occur annually. Our stringent safety standards are effective, but new challenges and technologies require new approaches.

What to expect:
Promote information-sharing between flag States on the results of inspections
Greater use of digital solutions such as e-certificates
Step up Member States’ capacity to detect safety issues and compliance failings in the environmental and pollution fields
Improve the safety of fishing vessels

Flag States must ensure that the ship is fit to sail.
Port State inspectors check on foreign ships when they are in ports.
Maritime accident investigation is designed to determine the root cause of accident to prevent their reoccurrence.

Extended support by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)
COMBAT SHIP-SOURCE POLLUTION
Objective:
Hinder all shipowners and operators (regardless of flag) from releasing any type of illegal discharge into European seas.

What to expect:
- Extended range of substances classified as polluting
- More effective enforcement in international cross-border pollution cases
- Robust framework for penalties & their application
- Possible future inclusion of air pollutant emissions

EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY
Objective:
Ensure EMSA support services are up-to-date in light of new rules, needs and challenges.

What to expect:
Revamped mandate to better reflect the growing role EMSA plays in support of many aspects of maritime transport:
- Safety
- Pollution prevention
- Environmental protection
- Climate action
- Security
- Surveillance and crisis management
- Digitalisation

Founded in 2002, EMSA’s mission is to serve EU maritime interests for a safe, secure, green and competitive maritime sector.
More: www.emsa.europa.eu