MARSUR
Maritime Surveillance Networking

Demonstration 30 June 2011
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Speaking points

Dear Ministers,

- Welcome. Level of attendance - including some Ministers – shows the high level of interest in this important project.

- Some 5 years ago SB tasked Agency to work on military Maritime Surveillance related issues.

- Particular focus "*on the interface with European security and border control*'.

- In other words, to work on civil/military synergies

- Today you will see what has been achieved within the EDA framework to make this task becoming a reality.

- 15 Member States, led by Finland have worked on the parameters for linking up various national military Maritime Surveillance Networks.

- EDA has been a facilitator and a catalyst, a flexible framework to contract and supervise studies according to MARSUR pMS wishes.

- Why such a network and what is the purpose of this network? Is it about technical issues?

- The answer is twofold: First, there is nothing comparable in Europe.

- Second, the network is more than technical issues. This is not only a technical interface, it is an enabler.

- The network will be used for the exchange of data, information and at a later stage, and only depending on the will of all members to it, intelligence.

- The exchanged and shared data, information or intelligence can be fused and processed to contribute to improved decision making.

- At all levels of decision making, from the political level down to the tactical level.

- This network will support CSDP operations but also contribute to enhance National Maritime Surveillance by Member States.

- Events since 2005 demonstrate that there is a need for maritime surveillance. This is a prerequisite for operation ATALANTA, which has been covered by the development of an Ad Hoc Network

- This is also needed for another operation closer to our southern EU coastline.

- The team of experts had to overcome technological problems.

- However - the main challenge, was not technology, but mind set.

- Many of us still operate on the basis of "need to know".

- But - if it may be sometimes necessary – this can lead to lost opportunities and, possible, increased risk.

- We need combine it with a culture of "need to share" if we want to benefit from information and if we want to survive the threat in the information age.

- Our adversaries know it and they are utilizing information and related technology as best as they can.

- We must catch up.

- This was clearly recognized in the EDA Wise Pen Team final report on MARSUR.

- The network you see today is a significant step in the right direction.

- And I am confident that it will develop further.

- For example, it could be extended to more Member States and relevant stakeholders.

- And it can be technologically improved.

- You the Member States are the ones who can do it. I encourage you to do so.

- I would like to thank the six MS (FI, FR, ES, IT, UK, SE) who are the frontrunners and are presenting today an endeavour in which 15 Member States have been active. I particularly thank Finland for their strong leadership of this work.

- Before we start the presentation, however, I would like Capabilities Director explain a little more in detail what has been done and achieved so far.

Thank you.