

## **ECSA Weekly Bulletin 1/2021, 11 January 2021**

### **EU NAVFOR Atalanta revised mandate until end 2022**

The text of the new mandate of EU Naval Force Somalia Operation ATALANTA 'to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast' is available [here](#). It has been revised starting 1 January 2021, lasting until 31 December 2022. In addition to the main tasks of countering piracy and protecting the World Food Programme and other vulnerable vessels, the new mandate now includes additional secondary tasks of monitoring narcotic drugs trafficking, arms trafficking, IUU fishing and illicit trade in charcoal off the coast of Somalia. It also introduces a new article on the transfer of persons arrested and detained with a view to their prosecution.

### **EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement**

On 24 December, a post-Brexit agreement between the EU and the UK was finally reached. The full (yet still provisional) text of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement has been published. It is available [here](#), with other materials [here](#). The agreed section on International Maritime Transport Services is from pages 111-113. The Commission proposes to apply the Agreement on a provisional basis until 28 February 2021. The deal has been approved at the level of the Council, and the Parliament has [accepted](#) the provisional application of it – however a full Parliament vote is yet to take place. This is foreseen during the plenary session of March 8-11 2021.

### **EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investment**

According to the announcement on 30 December by the Commission that the EU and China have reached an [agreement](#) in principle on investment, China has committed to a greater level of market access for EU investors than ever before. Importantly, for maritime transport, China is noted to allow investment in the relevant land-based auxiliary activities, enabling EU companies to invest without restriction in cargo-handling, container depots and stations, maritime agencies, etc. This will allow EU companies to organise a full range of multi-modal door-to-door transport, including the domestic leg of international maritime transport. The full text of the agreement remains unfinalised and will need to be legally reviewed and translated before it can be submitted for approval by the Council and the Parliament.

### **ECSA keeps open dialogue with DG MOVE on EMSW**

On 7 January, the Secretariat organised an exchange of views with policy officers in DG MOVE Unit D1 (Maritime Transport and Logistics) to discuss the ongoing implementation process of the Regulation on the *European Maritime Single Windows* environment. To recall, ECSA is a member of several of the Commission's expert groups currently discussing different aspects of the Regulation (data, datasets, interfaces). Ahead of the publication of the first implementing and delegated acts this coming summer, we are keeping in regular contact with DG MOVE to ensure the

Commission's approach is aligned with the views of the shipping industry, in order to achieve effective implementation.

**Business Europe monthly call on social affairs**

ECSA, as a member of the 'Inner Circle' of the European Employers' Network of Business Europe, participated at the monthly call on the recent developments on social affairs. Business Europe reported on many topics, including:

- a) Seminar with head of cabinet Commissioner Schmit, Antoine Kasel, on the Action Plan on the European Pillar of Social Rights, to be held on 19 March;
- b) On the minimum wage proposal, two rapporteurs on behalf of the EP will be appointed: Agnes Jongerius (Dutch, S&D) and Dennis Radtke (German, EPP);
- c) Opinion of the legal service of the Council on the minimum wage proposal is expected possibly end of February;
- d) On pay transparency: Commission proposal expected in February or March.

**Upcoming meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Time</b>
12 January	Communications Working Group	11:00-12.00
18 January	Safety and Environment Committee	10:00-14:00
9 February	Communications Working Group	11:00-12.00
9 March	Taxation Working Group	Time TBC

**Upcoming Members' Activities**

- 3 February 2021: [UK CoS Conference 'Creating Pathways to 2030'](#)

**Media mentions**

- [ECSA launches SkillSea project aiming to digitalization](#), Safety4Sea

## Tweet of the Week

[https://twitter.com/Transport\\_EU/status/1346003437150986240](https://twitter.com/Transport_EU/status/1346003437150986240)

