

MSI Self Assessment – NAVAREA III – CPRNW9-3-2-1-III

Submitted by: Spain

1. **Action Required:** None, submitted for information only.
2. **Background:** As a result of the meeting celebrated in Monaco in January 2006, several countries (Algeria, Italy, an Tunisia) are moving forward trying to implement as son as possible those agreements reached in that meeting.

Also NAVAREA III Co-ordinator, trying to fulfil one of the decisions agreed during CPRNW-8, has contacted bordering countries of the Black Sea trying to establish a new sub-area in that region that may improve WWNWS service in that region.

The attendance of Turkey to CPRNW-9 will probably clarify a lot the future of this issue.

Some steps have been given also trying to establish NAVTEX service in the Caspian Sea with the collaboration of the Russian Federation and Iran in a first try. May be in the future some other bordering nations could join this effort with the installation of new stations in this region.

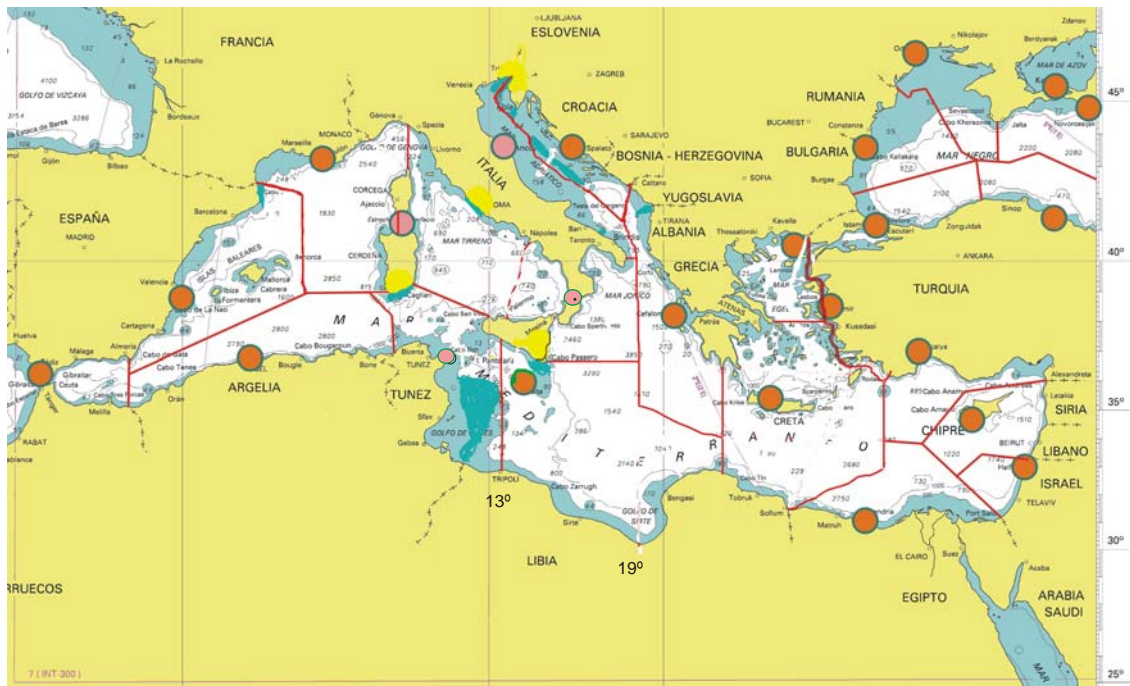
Discussions will follow trying to determine in which way this region is included in the current WWNWS.

Finally, tries to contact Libyan and Albanian authorities have not been successful, but nevertheless, we will continue in the idea to count on Libya mainly with the purpose of establishing a new NAVTEX station on their territory that will fill the only gap of this Service in the Mediterranean Sea in these days.

3. **Comments:** The following table shows the number of Safety Net navigational warning messages that were promulgated during the last four years and NAVTEX messages promulgated during the last two years.

NAVAREA III	2003	2004	2005	2006
SAFETY NET	883	722	724	617
			1887	2355

4. NAVTEX Coverage: see attached diagram.



This draft picture of the NAVTEX Service Areas in the Mediterranean Sea is subject to the final agreement between countries involved, in order to determine the exact geographic coordinates of the Service Areas of those new Stations recently installed in Tunisia, Italy and Algeria.

5. Operational Issues:

5.1 Status of the implementation of new NAVTEX Stations in Western and Central Mediterranean.

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. Nevertheless, we have not received any news yet about any of the new Stations becoming operational in the last weeks.

Therefore, Tunisia is still waiting for an available B1 Character before they can set their new Station in the Cape Bon region as fully operational.

The new NAVTEX Station of Bordj-El-Kiffan in Algeria is fully operational since August 2006.

5.2 Status of the new Sub-area in the Black Sea.

Following Agenda Item 3.2 of CPRNW-8, NAVAREA III Co-ordinator was asked to contact Black Sea bordering countries in order to establish a new Sub-area in this region following the idea that originated in the past a similar Sub-area in the Baltic Sea, within NAVAREA I.

After contacting all these countries, four answers were received, three of them supporting the idea (Romania, Russian Federation and Turkey) and one against it (Ukraine). Those countries supporting this new Sub-area agree that Turkey could be the Co-ordinator.

Therefore, Turkey has been invited to attend CPRNW-9 and to present their proposal for becoming Sub-area Co-ordinator of the new Sub-area to be created in the Black Sea if a final agreement is reached in this sense.

5.3 Status of the WWNWS in the Caspian Sea

In a similar way, as it was also discussed during CPRNW-8, the Caspian Sea could also be covered by the WWNWS, with NAVTEX stations broadcasting in that region and forwarding MSI to the ships sailing in that inner sea. Right now there are two stations transmitting in the region that are Astrakhan (Russ. Fed.) and Iran. According with the results of the Black Sea Sub-area, we could go forward and see what kind of solution can be given to the Caspian Sea.

Iran has been invited to attend CPRNW-9 and most probably can bring forward some ideas that will help us dealing with this issue.

5.4 Other issues in the region.

NAVAREA III Co-ordinator has tried to contact Libyan authorities in order to find a solution for the problem in the Gulf of Syrte, the only gap of the NAVTEX Service in the Mediterranean but, unfortunately, no answer has been received up to date from this country. Nevertheless, our intentions are to continue trying to contact them as well as the Albanian authorities in order to clarify the proceedings for a correct dissemination of MSI within this region. A formal invitation has been sent from the IHB, together with Spain and Malta, to attend MBSHC-15 in Malta next October. Probably there we will be able to make some progress in this issue.

Along this year NAVTEX Control Panel has managed to clarify and solve some technical issues dealing with the correct use of B1 codes and time slots by Ukraine NAVTEX Stations and also letting Syria know that they were supposed to transmit only in 490 KHz although their new equipment was able to transmit also in 518 KHz but that broadcast would disrupt the whole system in that area of Eastern Mediterranean.

6. Capacity Building Committee

During the last meeting of CBC held in Riga, Latvia, June 2007, funds were allocated in order to organize a workshop on “Increased Safety in National Waters” emphasizing the need to empower national coordinators. This workshop is focused on Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Syria as candidates.

Previous to this workshop, technical visits to several of these countries (Israel, Lebanon, Libya and Syria) in order to raise awareness at governmental level, and prepare way for Phase 1 Technical Workshop, are considered very recommendable and therefore were also considered by CBC-5 and have received funds for this issue.

The details of both subjects will be discussed during MBSHC-15 next October in Malt with the objective of both projects to be accomplished during 2008.

7. **Other Activities:** nothing to report.

8. **NAVAREA Contact Info:** (include complete address with website, if any)

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9. **Recommendations:** the Commission is invited to note this report.

10. **Actions required:** none.