

Information Bulletin August 2023



EMASoH in August – Bottom Lines Up Front

- On August 5th, during a port visit to Dubai with ITS Rizzo, we gave an EMASoH presentation to several merchant shipping companies that operate in the Gulf region.
- The staff of EMASoH said goodbye to flagship ITS Luigi Rizzo on August 14th and continues to work ashore in Abu Dhabi.
- Force Commander RADM Panebianco presented EMASoH-AGENOR during a conference on ITS Morosini in Kuwait
- A view on the ships using the EMASoH Voluntary Reporting Scheme (VRS)

Presentation to merchant shipping companies – Dubai, UAE



Fig.1 - NCAGS presenting about the Voluntary Reporting Scheme (VRS)

Reporting Scheme (VRS) works and how we aim to reassure merchant vessels transiting through the area.

The meetings are a great opportunity to share knowledge, exchange experiences and increase everyone's situational awareness about the Gulf region.

From 3rd to 7th of August, the EMASoH flagship ITS Luigi Rizzo paid a port visit to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. During this port visit we hosted several representatives from major shipping companies that operate in the Gulf region. The companies that attended included Maersk, Euronav and Latsco.

Giving these presentations allows us to inform the merchant operators about Operation AGENOR, and the way in which NCAGS (Naval Coordination And Guidance to Shipping) aims to cooperate with the merchant vessels in the Gulf region and Strait of Hormuz. For example, we explain how the Voluntary



Fig.2 – The EMASoH presentation on board of ITS Luigi Rizzo

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EMASoH-AGENOR staff moves ashore to Abu Dhabi

The staff of Operation AGENOR embarked on Italian ship ITS Luigi Rizzo on June 9th. Being the flagship of the operation for 66 days, “Rizzo” sailed in the Gulf region and through the Strait of Hormuz covering a total of 8346,7 nautical miles. In total, the flagship accompanied 105 merchant vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, on their journey to the Gulf or other destinations.

While contributing to Operation AGENOR, Rizzo visited the ports of Muscat (Oman), Dubai (UAE), Doha (Qatar), Manama (Bahrain) and Abu Dhabi (UAE). The port visits have been valuable opportunities to engage with local representatives, ambassadors, merchant shipping companies and local military and civilian authorities. Four diplomatic events were organised, in which we hosted and presented EMASoH to more than 40 ambassadors, defense attachés and other high representatives of various countries. Besides that, we spoke to more merchant shipping operators to inform them about our operation, to increase situational awareness and to strengthen relations with these companies.



Fig.3 – ITS Luigi Rizzo while operating in the Gulf region



Fig.4 – Commanding Officer of ITS Luigi Rizzo
CF C. Pellegrino (left) and
AGENOR Force Commander, Rear Admiral Mauro
Panebianco

On August 14th the staff of AGENOR disembarked the Rizzo in Abu Dhabi after having said goodbye to the crew. The ship continued to contribute to AGENOR until August 20th, after which the crew set a course back to La Spezia, Italy, with a planned arrival date on September 5th. Once again, we would like to thank the crew for hosting us on board.

After disembarking, the AGENOR staff continues their efforts for EMASoH from Abu Dhabi, UAE.

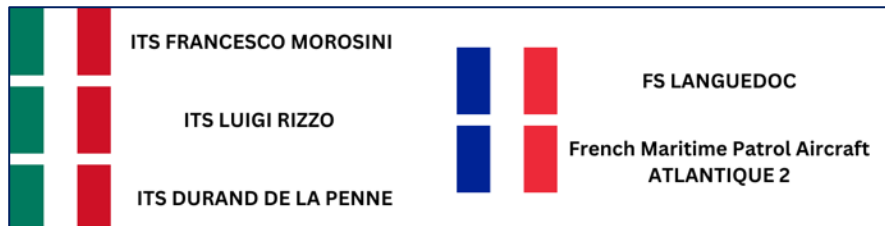


Fig.5 - Countries that have contributed to Operation AGENOR in August

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Conference on ITS Francesco Morosini – Kuwait City

ITS Francesco Morosini, one of the assets contributing to Operation AGENOR, paid a port visit to Kuwait City from August 25th – 28th. During this visit to Kuwait the ship hosted a press conference with AGENOR Force Commander Panebianco. The conference gave us the opportunity to present EMASoH and our efforts in the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf region to the audience.



Fig.6 – (left to right) Italian Ambassador in Kuwait H.E. Carlo Baldocci, Commanding Officer of ITS Morosini, Giovanni Monno and Force Commander RADM Mauro Panebianco



Fig.7 - Panebianco and Monno on ITS Morosini

EMASoH Voluntary Reporting Scheme

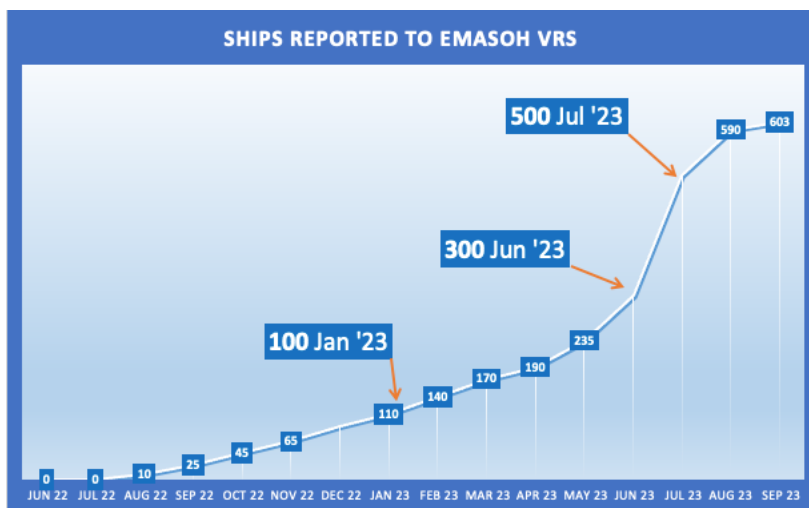


Fig.8 - The EMASoH Voluntary Reporting Scheme numbers as of June 2022

The number of ships that report to us in the VRA (Voluntary Reporting Area) has greatly increased in the last few months. We saw a steady increase from June 2022, and another major increase in June of this year. The growing number signifies a heightened awareness of Operation AGENOR within the merchant shipping community. This is mainly due to a focused effort from AGENOR to interact with the shipping community, particularly the Hellenic, as it accounts for approximately 30-50% of the EMASoH ships of interest in the area. We have an average of 34 ships

reporting each day to us in the EMASoH Voluntary Reporting Area.

More information about the VRS: <https://www.emasoh-agenor.org/voluntary-reporting-scheme>

Voluntary reporting improves the cooperation and guidance that EMASoH can provide to those ships. Voluntary reported ships are also prioritised for possible accompaniments with EMASoH's naval assets and reassuring calls with naval and aerial assets.

Before entering the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA), 48 hours in advance, or as soon as possible:

- ✓ inform EMASoH about the timing of your intended entry and exit of the VRA;
- ✓ confirm the planning 6 hours before entering and share possible changes to the journey planning;
- ✓ report any suspicious behaviour to the coast guard of the coastal state and to EMASoH.

Voluntary reporting to EMASoH via ctf474-emasoh.vra.fct@def.gouv.fr

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