



**ECASBA EUROPEAN
SEMINAR 2010
GIJÓN 18/19th MAY 2010
“THE CURRENT STATE OF
PLAY”**

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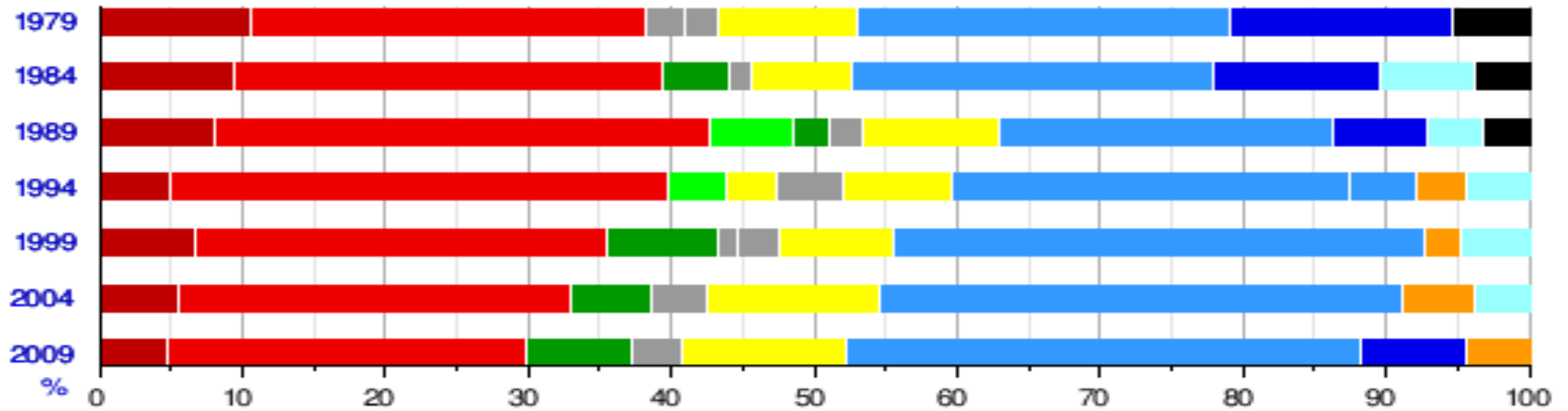
SO WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE LAST TIME?

- Elections to European Parliament and Commission
- DG-TREN splits into DG-ENERGY and DG-MOVE
- New Director-General appointed to MOVE
- E-Maritime initiative launched
- Action on Emission Control Areas (ECAs)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

- Parliament elected in June 2009 for period 2009 – 2014
- Total of 736 MEP's representing 7 groups plus 26 “non-attached” MEP's
- Overall Parliament is centre left leaning – previously centre right
- Jerzy Buzek (Poland) holds Presidency until January 2012
- Brian Simpson (UK) is Chairman of the Transport Committee

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT 2009-2014



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- Jose Manuel Barroso re-elected as President
- Siim Kallas (Estonia) appointed as Transport Commissioner
- Maria Damanaki (Greece) Maritime Affairs and Fisheries)*
- Algirdas Šemeta (Lithuania) Taxation and Customs Union
- Janez Potočnik (Slovenia) Environment
- Connie Hedegaard (Denmark) Climate Action*

* Newly elected to Commission in 2009

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- DG-TREN split into DG-ENERGY and DG-MOVE (Mobility and Transportation)
- Matthias Ruete appointed Director General DG-MOVE
- Fotis Karamitsos remains Director, Unit G, Maritime Transport, Galileo and Intelligent Transport
- Dimitrios Theologitis remains Head of Unit G3, Maritime Transport and Ports Policy, Maritime Security

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- DG-TAXUD remains largely unchanged
- Walter Deffaa appointed Director General DG-MOVE
- Mirosław Zielinski remains Director, Unit C, Customs Policy
- Maria-Manuela Cabral remains Head of Unit C1, now A1, Customs Policy and Electronic Customs

CURRENT ISSUES - MOVE

- E-Maritime
- Common European Maritime Transport Space without Barriers
 - Authorised Regular Shipping Services
- Short Sea Shipping
- EMSA New Inspection Regime
- Motorways of the Sea

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CURRENT ISSUES - MOVE

Common European Maritime Transport Space without Barriers

- Considerable overlap with E-Maritime
- Authorised Regular Shipping Services – change to criteria, now based on record on compliance with customs formalities
- Streamlining and harmonisation of inspection procedures
- Implementation of IMO-FAL forms Europe-wide
- Ongoing issues with DG-TAXUD

CURRENT ISSUES - MOVE

EMSA New Inspection Regime

- Aims to provide enhanced protection from sub-standard shipping by:
 - ranking vessels in high, medium and low risk categories based on qualitative criteria, including reputation of owners/operators
 - surveying all vessels calling at EU ports
 - but frequency of surveys based on risk category and
 - risk categories regularly updated
 - Enhanced exchange of data amongst EU member states and Paris MOU members (EU + Russia and Canada) using THETIS database and SafeSeaNet
- Implementation date 1st January 2011
- ECASBA chosen by EMSA to promote NIR amongst agency community

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Modernised Customs Code Implementation Procedures
- Authorised Economic Operators
- Customs Valuations
- Actions on Mideclared Cargo

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Modernised Customs Code Implementation Procedures/1
 - Political pressure to introduce July 1st 2013
 - Trade Contact Group (TCG) does not believe this is achievable
 - Significant reduction in simplifications and other enhancements currently available to industry
 - Lack of consultation between TAXUD and TCG
 - Impossible deadlines for consultations
 - Failure of TAXUD to accurately represent TCG concerns to MS
 - No tripartite meetings, Commission/MS/TCG
 - Commission looking for one voice from industry
 - Sheer volume of information to be processed

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Modernised Customs Code Implementation Procedures/2
 - TCG calling on TAXUD to increase level of consultation to that indicated in the agreed ToFR
 - Commission should appreciate and respect the level of knowledge and experience available within industry and utilise same to best advantage
 - Currently TCG is concerned the consultation is a box ticking exercise rather than a
 - So far as possible same level of information should be provided to trade as to MS – and with same timelines to allow adequate consultation
 - Amended documentation must clearly show where changes are made
 - Need to take action on 27 major outstanding items

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Authorised Economic Operators
 - Still no defined, tangible benefits for accredited companies leading to...
 - Very poor take up across Europe, presently only approx. 2,750 companies with AEO status (2,200 in ECASBA Member States)
 - MCCIP may force companies to apply for AEO in order to gain access to simplifications

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Customs Valuations
 - Significant concerns over changes to method of determining valuations for customs purposes
 - “First sale/last sale” rule

CURRENT ISSUES - TAXUD

- Actions on Misdeclared Cargo
 - ECASBA letter to TAXUD January 2009, followed up with meeting March 2009.
 - Apparent lack of interest within TAXUD to rectify, Member State issue
 - May 2010, WSC taking up with TAXUD, ECASBA providing support to WSC so hopeful of progress

CURRENT ISSUES – ENV/CLIMA

Emission Control Areas – Review of Sulphur Directive

- 0.1% Sulphur Emissions for N. Sea and Baltic ECA's in 2015
- Major concerns for short sea shipping industry on cost and practicalities
- May result in modal shift from sea back to road due to significant fuel price rises
- ECSA/ITMMA study calls for impact assessments before staged introduction
- Joint industry letter to Kallas and Potočnik May 2010



THE END
THANK YOU

ECASBA