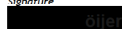


OPERATIONS DIVISION  
Joint Operations Unit  
SEA BORDERS SECTOR

# Operational Plan (Main part)

EPN Concept  
EPN Poseidon Sea 2015  
2015/SBS/07

*Prepared by*

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**Commented [A1]:** The blanked out part contains personal data. Its disclosure would affect the privacy and integrity of the individual. Therefore, its disclosure is precluded pursuant to the exception laid down in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission Documents.

# INDEX

## Contents

<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. DESCRIPTION AND GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. OPERATIONAL AIM AND OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1. Operational aim	5
3.2. Operational objectives	6
<b>4. OPERATIONAL CONCEPT</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5. IMPLEMENTATION</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1. Period of implementation	7
5.2. Additional information	7
5.3. Operational areas	7
5.4. Initial participants	8
5.5. Operational briefings / debriefings	8
<b>6. COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, OTHER UNION AGENCIES AND BODIES OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>8</b>
6.1. Cooperation with third countries	8
6.2. Cooperation with other Union agencies and bodies or international organizations	8
<b>7. COORDINATION STRUCTURE</b>	<b>8</b>
7.1. Partnership	8
7.2. Main operational structures / actors and their tasks	9
7.2.1. Member States	9
7.2.2. Frontex	9
<b>8. COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING</b>	<b>10</b>
8.1. Command and control	10
8.2. Operational communication	10
8.3. Communication with Press	11
8.4. Reporting	11
8.4.1. Incidents reporting and JORA	11
8.4.2. Reports of participants	11
8.4.3. Daily reporting package	12
8.4.4. Serious incident reporting	12
8.4.5. Frontex reports	13
8.4.6. Document alert and Reference Manual	13
8.4.7. Eurosur Fusion Services	14
<b>9. ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICS</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>9.1. Arrangements of deployed resources</b>	<b>14</b>
9.1.1. Operational resources management system (Opera)	14
9.1.2. Composition of the teams of guest officers and deployment of other relevant staff	15
9.1.3. Technical equipment deployed by Member States	15
9.1.4. Management of the operational assets deployed by Frontex	15
<b>9.2. Tests and trials</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9.3. Transport and lodging</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9.4. Field visits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9.5. Logistics</b>	<b>16</b>
9.5.1. Heavy equipment, firearms and ammunition	16
9.5.2. Crew issues	16
9.5.3. Diplomatic clearance and Night flights under VFR ATC clearance	17
<b>9.6. EPN Yellow Pages</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>10. EVALUATION</b>	<b>17</b>
10.1. Member States and Third Countries	17
10.2. Frontex	18
<b>11. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>ANNEXES</b>	<b>19</b>

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Operational Plan has to be agreed with the authorities of the host Member State, in consultation with the authorities of the home Member States<sup>1</sup> participating in the joint operation coordinated by Frontex. It covers all necessary elements for a proper and timely organization of the joint operation coordinated by Frontex.

The Operational Plan is composed of the Main part, Specific and General Annexes of the Operational Plan. The Main part, Specific and General Annex are an integral part of the Operational Plan, having the same importance and legal binding character.

The Main part and Specific Annex of the Operational Plan contain detailed and specific information related to the particular joint operation, while General Annex of the Operational Plan encloses operational information applicable to all joint maritime operations. Both Specific and General Annex complement the Main part of the Operational Plan by providing complete and comprehensive description of the implementation of the joint operation.

The Main part and Specific Annex of Operational Plan are marked as “Frontex Non-Classified Sensitive-Basic Protection Level” without prejudice to the public right of access to documents as laid down in Regulation (EC) 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001, regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, while the General Annex of the Operational Plan have no classification mark indicated.

The Operational Plan shall only be made available to the authorities referred in each Member State as “Law Enforcement”. This document shall be made available to other interested parties only on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with European and national rules on the protection of sensitive/classified information. Such dissemination of this document shall be done only on a case-by-case basis.

The Operational Plan may be revised at any time in order to correspond with the new operational developments. In accordance with Article 3a (2) of Frontex Regulation, any amendments to or adaptations of the Operational Plan require the agreement of the Frontex Executive Director and the host Member State and consultation with the home MS. A copy of the amended Operational Plan shall be immediately distributed by Frontex to the participating MS via FOSS.

*The Legal framework of Frontex, Fundamental rights in Frontex coordinated activities and Code of conduct can be found in the General Annex.*

## 2. DESCRIPTION AND GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION

The apprehension of irregular migrants on the Eastern Mediterranean route has followed different patterns over the past few years. From 2010 until the summer months of 2012, irregular migratory flows across Turkey were mainly targeting the Greek-Turkish land border. This trend changed at the beginning of August 2012, when the Hellenic authorities launched operation Aspida at the Greek land border with Turkey, which led to a partial displacement of the migratory flow initially towards the Greek-Turkish maritime border, especially to the Aegean Islands close to the Turkish coast, and from July 2013 onwards, towards the Bulgarian-Turkish land border.

In November 2013, the Bulgarian authorities implemented a similar operation at their land border with Turkey, deploying additional manpower and assets. As a consequence of the operation, the number of apprehended irregular migrants sharply decreased in Bulgaria which was followed by an increase at the Greek-Turkish sea border. The increase was mainly due to the fact that following the implementation of special operations at both the Greek-Turkish and Bulgarian-Turkish land borders, facilitation networks operating in Turkey became more active on the west coast of Turkey.

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of the present document, the term “Member State” includes also the States participating in the relevant development of the Schengen acquis in the meaning of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and its Protocol (No 19) on the Schengen acquis integrated into the framework of the European Union.

Thus far in 2014, in terms of the number of detected and apprehended irregular migrants at the EU's external borders, the Eastern Mediterranean route ranks second. Moreover, in terms of the distribution of irregular migrants apprehended on the Eastern Mediterranean route, nearly 85% have been apprehended at the Greek-Turkish maritime borders, 11.5% have been apprehended at the Bulgarian-Turkish land borders and 3.5% have been apprehended at the Greek-Turkish land border. A few isolated incidents have also been reported in the Black Sea, involving migrants departing from harbours close to Istanbul towards Romania.

In 2014 (from 1 January until 15 December) with a total of 41 300 irregular migrants intercepted at its maritime borders, Greece recorded a sharp increase (nearly 300 %) in comparison to the respective period of 2013. Additionally, according to the Hellenic Coast Guard estimations, nearly 11 000 irregular migrants were prevented from reaching the Greek Coasts during 2014. At the same time, the number of migrants intercepted at the Greek and Bulgarian land borders with Turkey decreased by nearly 42%.

**Commented [A2]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information on threats and risks, modus operandi and trends identified. Their disclosure would be tantamount to releasing pieces of intelligence gathered by law enforcement officials to tackle irregular migration, as well as their follow up actions. The operation would lose its element of surprise, weakening similar current and future operations and facilitating irregular migration. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

The peak period in migrant apprehensions was the period between the middle of September and the middle of October 2014, with an average of nearly 1 850 irregular migrants apprehended per week. Following the seasonal pattern, the number of irregular migrants declined during the second half of October to an average of 1 000 irregular migrants per week, which still represents a high increase compared to the same period of 2013, while in November-December the weekly average has been 600 irregular migrants. Despite winter conditions, it is expected that the number of illegal border-crossings on the Aegean Islands will continue to remain high. Historical data for the last two years show that during the winter period the number of irregular migrants remained notable.

*The thorough assessment of the situation can be found in the Specific Annex 1.*

### 3. OPERATIONAL AIM AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1. Operational aim

The operational aim of the joint operation is to implement coordinated operational activities at the external sea borders of the Eastern Mediterranean region in order to control irregular migration flows towards the territory of the MS of the European Union (EU) and to tackle cross border crime.

The operational aims will be implemented in full compliance with the relevant EU and international law, the respect for fundamental rights in particular the access to international protection and the compliance

with the principle of non- refoulement and taking into account the recommendations of the Frontex Consultative Forum.

### 3.2. Operational objectives

- Enhance border security
- Contribute to search and rescue in order to render assistance to persons found in distress
- Enhance operational cooperation
- Enhance exchange of information
- Identify possible risks and threats
- Establish and exchange best practices

The main objectives of joint operation will be achieved by combining different types of operational activities, particularly: border surveillance, border checks, gathering of information through debriefing and screening activities.

*The detailed information regarding operational objectives is provided in the Specific Annex 2.*

## 4. OPERATIONAL CONCEPT

The activities during the operation include deployment of technical and human resources in order to:

- Provide support to Hellenic Authorities in border surveillance activities at sea borders;
- Enhance border checks at designated border crossing points;
- Support debriefing activities in order to collect information for risk analysis purposes;
- Provide framework for the screening of irregular migrants in coordination with the Flexible Operational Activities in Return;
- Share experiences and exchange expertise as well as to constantly update knowledge on the irregular migration trends in order to adopt countermeasures to tackle the phenomena;
- Collect and assess information in order to improve the detection of human smuggling and trafficking in human beings facilitation by individuals and/or criminal networks and assist wherever possible in the identification of facilitators;
- Provide with a clear and updated situational picture concerning the operational areas, modus operandi, main trends and possible rapid changes in this respect;
- Carry out daily and ad-hoc exchange of information between Frontex and all operational actors and structures involved;
- Facilitate the cooperation with Union agencies and bodies or international organizations, and Third Countries.

*The detailed operational concept and Guidelines for debriefing and screening activities are defined in the General Annex.*

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION

### 5.1. Period of implementation<sup>2</sup>

Commencement	1 February 2015	00:00 (local time)
Termination	31 December 2015	24:00 (local time)

### 5.2. Additional information

Travel days	Travel days should be planned by MS in order not to hamper the deployment period
Operational briefing	Operational briefing for participants will be performed during the first days of deployment
Operational debriefing	Operational debriefing for participants will be performed during the last days of deployment

### 5.3. Operational areas<sup>3</sup>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Commented [A3]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information regarding the operational area. Its disclosure would expose law enforcement officials patrolling the area and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above, the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

<sup>2</sup> Foreseeable duration of the joint operation as indicated in the Article 3a (1) (b) of the Frontex Regulation.

<sup>3</sup> Geographical area of the joint operation as indicated in Article 3a (1) (c) of the Frontex Regulation

#### 5.4. Initial participants

Host MS	Greece
Home MS	Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Italia, Latvia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovakia, United Kingdom
Third countries	Albania and Ukraine
Other Union agencies and bodies or international organizations	EASO, EFCA, EMSA, EUROPOL, FRA, UNHCR

#### 5.5. Operational briefings / debriefings

All participants taking part in joint operation will receive the Operational briefing and debriefing delivered by representatives of Frontex and national authorities of host MS.

*The detailed information regarding operational areas, initial plan of deployed resources and operational briefing and debriefing is provided in the Specific Annexes 4-6.*

*The standard plan of operational briefing and debriefing is available in the General Annex.*

## 6. COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, OTHER UNION AGENCIES AND BODIES OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### 6.1. Cooperation with third countries

In the framework of the existing Working Arrangements between Frontex and the competent authorities of Albania and Ukraine and pursuant to Article 14(6) of the Frontex Regulation, Frontex has invited border guard/police officers from the aforementioned countries to be deployed as observers in the ICC Piraeus.

The observers will receive appropriate operational briefing and debriefing delivered by Frontex.

*The more detailed information regarding the participation and tasks of Third Country Observers in joint operation is defined in the Specific Annex 7.*

### 6.2. Cooperation with other Union agencies and bodies or international organizations

During the joint operation the cooperation with EASO, EFCA, EMSA, EUROPOL, FRA, UNHCR will be established.

*More detailed information about cooperation with other Union agencies and bodies or international organizations within maritime domain is provided in the Specific Annex 8.*

## 7. COORDINATION STRUCTURE

### 7.1. Partnership

Frontex is the EU coordinator, initiating, promoting and facilitating the EU MS synchronized efforts to control the external borders.



EPN Poseidon Sea 2015

The Greek authorities - Hellenic Coast Guard and Hellenic Police - are the direct partners of Frontex and responsible for all border related activities within the joint operation EPN Poseidon Sea 2015.

The home MS will support the achievement of operational objectives and implementation of activities by deploying their resources to the defined locations in particular periods of time.

## 7.2. Main operational structures / actors and their tasks

### 7.2.1. Member States

- International Coordination Centre (ICC) - ICC Piraeus
- ICC Coordinator - Officer of Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG)
- Joint Coordinating Board (JCB) - ICC Coordinator, IO, NO, FOC, etc
- National Official (NO) - Officers of home MS deploying maritime and aerial assets
- Intelligence Officer (IO) - Officer of Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG)
- Liaison Officer (LO) - Officer from HP in ICC
- Guest officers and Officers of the host MS
- Commanding Officer (CO) - Commander of asset
- Interpreters
- Local Coordination Centres (LCC) - [REDACTED]

Regular coordination meetings organised by FSO and coordinated by LCC Coordinator will be held in LCCs where the FSOs are deployed in order to update participants of the JO on operational situation and to coordinate activities.

- LCC Coordinator - Local officer of HCG
- Reporting Points - [REDACTED]
- Liaison Officer (LO) - Officer from Italian Authorities
- Liaison Officer - Technical Equipment (LO - TE) - Officer of HCG
- JDT Team Leader - Officer of Hellenic Police (HP)
- Local staff of the host MS

### 7.2.2. Frontex

- Operational Manager (OM) and Operational Team (OT)
- Frontex Coordinating Officer (FCO)
- Frontex Operational Coordinator (FOC)
- Frontex Support Officer (FSO)
- Operational Analyst (OA)
- Special Adviser for Debriefing Activities
- Frontex Situation Centre (FSC)
  - Senior Duty Officer (SDO)
  - Frontex Support Officer (FSO FSC)
  - FOSS Service Managers
  - Frontex Fusion Service Managers
- Frontex Liaison Office (Piraeus) (FLO)
- Training Unit (TRU)
- Pooled Resources Unit (PRU)
- Seconded Guest Officers

**Commented [A4]:** The blanked out parts contain indications of the operational area. Disclosing the operational area would expose law enforcement officials patrolling the area and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above, the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

*The general tasks and roles of operational structures / actors are defined in the General Annex.  
Description of the tasks and specific instructions to guest officers and other participants (Rules of engagement) are defined in the Specific Annex 3.*

## 8. COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

### 8.1. Command and control

Operational command of aerial, maritime and terrestrial assets of the participating MS remains with the respective MS, while the tactical command of the assets is in the hands of the ICC after consultation with the National Officials (NO).

National Officials are under the command and control of the respective home MS.

Commanding Officers (CO) are the Commanders of assets according to their national legislation.

Command and control of GO, Interpreters / Cultural Mediators and Observers from Third countries remain with the competent national authority of the host MS.

SGO perform their tasks under the instructions from the border guards of the host MS, while their command and control is exercised by Frontex.

GO and SGO under FSO profile perform their tasks under the instructions and command and control of Frontex in close cooperation with the host MS.

*The general command and control provisions are defined in the General Annex.*

*Command and control scheme is defined in the Specific Annex 9.*

*Names of the host MS border guards and police responsible for cooperating with the teams, in particular those of the border guards/police who are in command of the teams during the period of deployment, and the place of the teams in the chain of command are included in the Specific Annex 11.*

### 8.2. Operational communication

The operational communication between Frontex and all operational actors will be ensured via e-mail, cell and fixed line phones and videoconference as well as radio and satellite phones.

The information about joint operations (operational documents) will be accessible via FOSS.



*Detailed information about communication and FOSS is provided in the General Annex.*

*Contact details of participants can be found in the Specific Annex 11.*

**Commented [A5]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

### 8.3. Communication with Press

Frontex is strongly committed to the principle of transparency, therefore, as a general rule, media should be granted access to operational areas.

Guest officers are allowed to talk to the media only within the limits set by specific guidelines for the participating officers below. Each team member taking part in the operation shall receive a laminated card with the specific guidelines.

A network of press offices of all involved authorities will be established and all contact details shall be sent to the [press@frontex.europa.eu](mailto:press@frontex.europa.eu) address. A compiled list will be distributed to all parties involved.

The communication strategy on the Border Control Operational Actions on the territory of the Hellenic Republic is common for Frontex and the Host Members States.

Frontex and Greece shall nominate Dedicated Press Officers (DPO) who will be entirely responsible for coordination of all matters related to interview requests, press visits to the operational area and any other press-related matter related to EPN Poseidon Sea 2015 in general. They will work closely with the International Coordination Centre Coordinator. Press visits of international media to the EPN Poseidon Sea 2015 will be facilitated by Frontex in coordination with the Hellenic authorities following established procedures with the Foreign Correspondent office. Frontex Information and Transparency Unit may arrange, upon agreement with the ICC, the deployment of a GO with the profile of field press officer coordinator.

*Frontex communication policy, rules and guidelines for handling media requests are included in the General Annex.*

*The contact details of Frontex press office members (Spokesperson and Press Officer) and dedicated press officers of national authority of the host country are indicated in the Specific Annex 11.*

### 8.4. Reporting

*The examples of templates of all reports are provided in the General Annex. The templates in Word format are stored on FOSS.*

#### 8.4.1. Incidents reporting and JORA

All relevant incidents that have occurred within the joint operation shall be reported via JORA System.

*Comprehensive information on JORA is provided in the General Annex.*

*The list of JORA actors, the incidents reporting structure and JORA incident template attributes list are described in the Specific Annex 10.*

*The JORA Guidelines are available in FOSS.*

#### 8.4.2 Reports of participants

Type of report		Description	Responsibility	To be sent to
DAILY	ICC Daily report and/or JCB Minutes	Operational overview on a daily basis, covering the last 24 hours (00-24:00)	ICC	Shall be sent via email <a href="mailto:poseidon_sea@hcg.gr">poseidon_sea@hcg.gr</a>
	Standard Patrolling Schedule	Activities performed by the deployed technical equipment including Host MS patrolling assets co-financed by Frontex	ICC	

**Commented [A6]:** The blanked out part contains detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Its disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

Team Leader's Daily Report	Joint Debriefing Teams (JDT) activities on a daily basis	Team Leader (TL)	
IO Daily Report	Updated information from the operational scene for intelligence purposes	Intelligence Officer (IO)	
Interviews	Information collected after each interview with migrant	IO/TL/Debriefing Experts	Shall be sent via emails of respective LCCs and LCCs shall forward to ICC Piraeus via email
Technical Equipment Mission Report	Information about the activity performed by the assets	CO, NO	
Report from National Briefer	Information on National briefing provided to participants of the JO	National Briefer	Shall be sent to the Training Unit via email within 5 calendar days

**Commented [A7]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

#### 8.4.3 Daily reporting package

The Daily reporting package shall be prepared by the ICC Staff and shall consist of the reports indicated in a chapter above.

The ICC is responsible for the dissemination of the Reporting Package on a daily basis before 14.00 CET (Athens local time 15.00) to Frontex (Operational Team and FSC) via emails

#### 8.4.4 Serious incident reporting

The reporting of SI within operation must be in line with the reporting structure for the operation.

Type of report	Description	Responsibility
Initial Serious Incident Report	An alert message that shall be reported immediately (within 2 hours after recognition) to FSC and Host Member State Authorities in case a relevant incident occurs that needs urgent attention as the incident may affect or be relevant to, the Frontex mission, its obligation, image, the safety and security of participants in activities coordinated or led by Frontex, or any combination thereof, having special regard to any allegation of violation of Fundamental Rights.	All participants of the JO

*Serious Incidents Catalogue is available in the General Annex.*

#### 8.4.5 Frontex reports

Type of report	Description	Responsibility	To be sent
FCO report	Feedback on performed activities in the area	FCO	Shall be sent to Frontex via email [redacted]
FOC Daily Report	Overview of the operational activities related to the 24-hour period of the preceding day - to be sent until 13:00 LT	FOC, FSO	Shall be sent to Frontex via emails [redacted]
FSO Daily Report	Overview of the operational activities related to the 24-hour period of the preceding day - to be sent until 11:00 LT		Shall be sent to Frontex via emails [redacted] and [redacted]
FSO Weekly Report	Overview of the operational activities related to the period of Monday-Sunday - to be sent every Monday until 11:00 LT		for information to HCG via [redacted]
Weekly/Bi-weekly Analytical Report/Update (WAR/WAU)	Analytical assessment of the factors impacting the situation in the operational area, trends, patterns	OA	WAR shall be sent by FSC to the following email addresses: [redacted] (ICC). The ICC shall disseminate the WAR to the participants deployed in the operational area (experts, NO) and to the contacts of all national authorities involved in the JO. [redacted]
FSC Situational Report	Overview of the operational activities related to the 24-hour period of the preceding day	FSC SDO	Will be uploaded on FOSS under the responsibility of SDO to be accessible for MS and distributed to other stakeholders by email only in case they do not have access to FOSS

**Commented [A8]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

#### 8.4.6 Document alert and Reference Manual

The officers are requested to compile the Reference Manual Alert Form each time a relevant document forgery is detected. This compiled alert shall be inserted in the daily report package and later integrate the Reference Manual if the relevance will justify it.

The experts are requested to compile the *Reference Manual Alert Form* each time a relevant document forgery is detected.

#### 8.4.7 Eurosur Fusion Services

The Eurosur Information Services (Geospatial Information, Vessel Monitoring, Vessel Detection and Environmental Information) are available via the Frontex Fusion Services (FFS) to support decision-making, planning and execution of missions. Aligned with operational needs, these services are accessible via the Eurosur Network and the JORA Visualization Module.

With specific reference to the Vessel Detection Service, it may be activated in support of maritime surveillance activities. For the most efficient implementation and exploitation of the service and in order to take full advantage of it, the Host Member State takes all the appropriate actions according to the national legislation and rules of engagement for investigating the VDS detections and coordinating the adequate follow-up activities. All operational results shall be reported via the reporting structure of the operation. Additional financial resources may be allocated by Frontex to ensure that aerial assets or, if not possible, other assets, are fully employed to investigate the objects of interest detected at sea during VDS-related activities.

#### VDS Operational Activities - Actors and Responsibilities (general)

- NCC:  
[Redacted]
- ICC:  
[Redacted]
- JOU/Sea Border Sector Operational Team:  
[Redacted]
- Frontex Situation Centre:  
[Redacted]

**Commented [A9]:** The blanked out parts contain information relating to distribution of tasks performed by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would jeopardize the work of law enforcement officials and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

For more information, please send an e-mail to [Redacted]

*More information on FFS is provided in the General Annex.*

**Commented [A10]:** The blanked out part contains detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Its disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, thus facilitating irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

## 9. ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

### 9.1. Arrangements of deployed resources

#### 9.1.1. Operational resources management system (Opera)

The Operational resources management system (Opera) is an integrated web-based system for the management of the operational resources pooled and deployed in Frontex coordinated activities. Information related to the availability and deployment of the resources is available in the application.

All information required for issuing accreditation cards for participants shall be introduced by home MS via Opera.

*More information about Opera is provided in the General Annex.*

#### 9.1.2. Composition of the teams of guest officers and deployment of other relevant staff

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Commented [A11]:** The blanked out parts contain information relating to distribution of tasks performed by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would jeopardise the work of law enforcement officials and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

#### 9.1.3. Technical equipment deployed by Member States

Technical equipment deployed by the MS in the operational areas to foster the border control activities may include Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV), Coastal Patrol Vessels (CPV), Coastal Patrol Boats (CPB), Helicopters, Fixed Wing Aircrafts (FWA), Thermo Vision Vehicle (TVV) and any other type of equipment agreed and confirmed by Frontex and the MS.

MS should deploy appropriate number of air crews, in order to perform two consequent flights and at the same time respecting Flight and Duty time limitations.

#### 9.1.4. Management of the operational assets<sup>4</sup> deployed by Frontex

Pooled Resources and Joint Operations Units deal with the distribution and retrieval of operational assets in the operational areas, according to the procedures in place.

*More information about arrangements of deployed resources and operational assets is available in the General Annex.*

*The initial plan of deployed resources is available in the Specific Annex 5.*

*All participants shall get familiar and apply the Tasks and specific instructions to guest officers and other participants (Rules of engagement) defined in the Specific Annex 3.*

<sup>4</sup> Frontex owned assets

## 9.2. Tests and trials

*More information on other Frontex products and services is available in the General Annex.*

## 9.3. Transport and lodging

The use of rental car is to be approved in advance by the Operational Manager and expenses should be included in the relevant financial documents. In this case all practical/logistic issues should be arranged by participants themselves in advance.

Upon arrival and departure, transportation from/to the airports to/from the hotels should be arranged by the participants themselves.

Frontex (Operational team) will not make any bookings or reservations of the flights, accommodation, etc.

*Information regarding accommodation can be found in the Specific Annex 12.*

## 9.4. Field visits

Prior the deployment of aerial and maritime assets, it is recommended for home MS to perform a field visit in order to get familiar with the operational area, local authorities and service providers. The field visit should be approved by the Operational Manager and agreed with the ICC Coordinator in advance.

The LCC Coordinator and Operational Team will support the field visits in accordance with the ICC and Frontex instructions.

Field visit delegation of two persons will be reimbursed by Frontex.

## 9.5. Logistics

### 9.5.1. Heavy equipment, firearms and ammunition

Heavy equipment is highly recommended to be delivered on the day after operational briefing and shipped back on the day before debriefing day.

The home MS should respect the procedures related to the transportation of firearms and ammunitions foreseen in the respective Annex and submit relevant requests in time in order not to jeopardise the timely start of the mission.

Guest officers shall not (are not allowed to) bring and carry any kind of service weapons (gun, truncheon, handcuffs, pepper spray).

*Delivery addresses and list of contact persons are included in the Specific Annex 11.*

*Information regarding transportation of firearms and ammunitions can be found in the Annex 12.*

### 9.5.2. Crew issues

Before executing the change of crew of asset deployed, the home MS shall inform Operational Team in due time in order to ensure delivery of the operational briefing / debriefing for crewmembers.

In case that the crew members will leave the deployment area during the days of crew rest time, it has to be informed in due time before to the home MS, LCC Coordinator and the Operational manager.

**Commented [A12]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information related to certain instruments used by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would jeopardise their work and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.



### 9.5.3. Diplomatic clearance and Night flights under VFR ATC clearance

The home MS deploying aerial assets shall make the necessary arrangements in advance to obtain the Diplomatic clearance to allow the state aircraft to enter the airspace of host MS.

The home MS should respect the time needed for issuance of flight clearance according to national procedures and submit clearance request for the diplomatic clearance in time in order not to jeopardise the timely start of the mission.

In addition to diplomatic clearance, according to GR AIP ENR 1.2., VFR flights shall not be operated during night without a clearance from the appropriate ATC unit.

Home MS should send clearance request for night flights under VFR at least 15 days before entering Athenai FIR to the Operational Team via e-mail: [REDACTED]

*Diplomatic clearance request form can be found in the Specific Annex 12.*

### 9.6. EPN Yellow Pages

To facilitate organisational arrangements and logistics related to the deployment of resources, the information about the host MS and operational areas of joint maritime operations - EPN Yellow Pages - is available on Sea Borders website on FOSS:

*More information about EPN Yellow Pages is provided in the General Annex.*

## 10. EVALUATION

### 10.1. Member States and Third Countries

Reports	Benchmarks	
Report from Participant	Shall be submitted to Frontex within 7 calendar days after deployment via email: [REDACTED]. Relevant sections of the report will be distributed to TRU. <i>Template of the report is available on FOSS</i>	
Final Report from Member State	Shall be submitted to Frontex within 7 calendar days after deployment or termination of the joint operation via email: [REDACTED]	
Final Report from Third Country	<i>Template of the reports is available on FOSS</i>	

The final payment will not be processed until the Final Reports from MS and Third country are not submitted to Frontex. In case only few GO were deployed by home MS, Report from Participant may be sufficient, if prior agreed with the Operational Manager.

**Commented [A13]:** The blanked out parts contain detailed information related to means of communication used by law enforcement officials. Their disclosure would lead to possible abusive usage and harm the course of future and ongoing operations, and thus facilitate irregular migration. Therefore, public security will be affected. In light of the above the text is not disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

## 10.2. Frontex

Reports	Benchmarks
Frontex Evaluation Report	The results of the joint operation will be evaluated and Frontex Evaluation Report (FER) will be transmitted within 60 calendar days after the termination of the JO to the Management Board together with the observations of the Fundamental Rights Officer referred to in Article 26a of the Frontex Regulation. FER will be uploaded on FOSS.

## 11. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

In accordance with the decision of the Frontex Executive Director, Frontex will co-finance the joint operation. Frontex will reimburse eligible costs incurred by participating MS authorities in relation to deployments of human and technical resources provided that the Framework Partnership Agreement is in force.

*Detailed financial provisions are described in the General Annex.*

## ANNEXES

Annex 1	Description and assessment of the situation
Annex 2	Operational objectives
Annex 3	Description of the tasks and specific instructions to guest officers and other participants (Rules of engagement)
Annex 4	Operational area
Annex 5	Initial plan of deployed resources
Annex 6	Operational briefing and debriefing
Annex 7	Cooperation with third countries
Annex 8	Cooperation with other Union agencies and bodies or international organizations
Annex 9	Command and control scheme
Annex 10	JORA (JORA actors, JORA Incidents Reporting Structure, JORA Reporting Timeline, JORA Incident Template Attributes' List)
Annex 11	Contact details
Annex 12	Organizational arrangements and logistics