



**The 5<sup>th</sup> European Research Vessel Operators Meeting** was held at the Black Sea resort of Mamaia (Constanta area), Romania, from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2003.

### Participation

The ERVO 2003 Meeting, hosted by the Romanian National Institute of Marine Geology and Geo-Ecology (GeoEcoMar) and the European Science Foundation–Marine Board (ESF-MB), was attended by 10 RV operator groups representing 5 EU Member States (Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Sweden and UK), 2 Associated States (Iceland, Norway) and 3 New Accession States (Romania, Bulgaria and Poland). 30 persons participated in the Meeting. Messages from EUROCEAN and Turkey were presented.

Apologies were received from Greece, Portugal, Italy, and Netherlands.

### Agenda

A Meeting Agenda and Participant List is included in Annex 1 and 2 respectively.

**Chairman:** Dr Gheorghe Oaie, GeoEcoMar – Bucharest (Romania).

ERVO 2003 had two specific objectives:

1. To welcome RV operators from the New Accession States (Romania, Bulgaria, Poland, Turkey).
2. To facilitate core ERVO agenda on exchange of information on issues concerning RV operation.

The meeting was opened by Dr Nicolae Panin (General Director, GeoEcoMar) who presented an overview of the national Romanian Marine Research Programme on the Black Sea and the activity of National Institute of Marine Geology and Geo-ecology (GeoEcoMar).

Presentations on RV Operations and Fleets were made by the following countries:

EU Member States	Associated States	New Accession States
Belgium	Iceland	Romania
Finland	Norway	Poland
Ireland		Bulgaria
Sweden		Turkey
UK		

The ESF-MB representative (Geoffrey O’Sullivan) made short presentations on:

- The CREST Working Group on “Opening of Member State Marine RTD Programmes.
- The European Marine Infrastructures Working Group.
- The European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology.
- The EurOCEAN 2004 Conference: Galway, Ireland 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2004.

It was noted that, according to the Report of thew Marine Research Infrastructures WG, at least 15 large vessels are planned over the period 2003-1015. Of these 6 have actually been approved and are under construction or will soon be built and that the total investment for these ships is estimated at around €1.2 billion.

The Lisbon-based European Centre for Information on Marine Science and Technology (EUROCEAN) requested that RV managers view its Research Vessel database at [www.eurocean.org](http://www.eurocean.org) and advise webmaster ([webmaster.eurocean@fct.mces.pt](mailto:webmaster.eurocean@fct.mces.pt)) of any errors in RV descriptions.

Presentations on local marine RTD activities were made by:

- University of Bucharest
- University *Ovidius* Constanta
- Romanian Naval Academy Constanta
- Romanian Maritime Hydrographic Directorate
- RTD National Institute Delta Dunarii (Danube Delta).

### **RV Operations Issues**

In a tour-de-table, current issues of common interest / concern included:

1. Introduction (in 2004) of the ISPS Security Code.
2. Implementation of the ISM Code.
3. Quality Control on Fishing Gear / Other instruments.
4. Coastal State MSR Clearance.
5. Minimum Certification required by scientific personnel.
6. Submersibles.
7. The Future: RVs vs AUVs.
8. Marine Archaeology.
9. On-board waste management.

### **AOB**

Participants were reminded that the next INMARTECH Meeting will be in the summer of 2004 (Cambridge, United Kingdom) jointly hosted by The British Antarctic Survey and Southampton Oceanography Centre.

The two websites below give some background: the first URL has an overview and proceedings for 1996, 1998 and 2000, the second URL has the proceedings for 2002.

<http://www.nioz.nl/inmartech2000/>

<http://www.jamstec.go.jp/jamstec-e/whatsnew/inmartech2002/proceeding.pdf>

### **ERVO 2004 (6<sup>th</sup> European Research Vessel Operators Meeting)**

It was agreed that the primary focus of ERVO Meetings and presentations should be on issues of mutual interest to RV operators rather than general back-ground issues. Though such background issues (e.g. EU RTD Policy developments) were of interest.

#### **Draft Agenda:**

1. Each RV Operator will make short presentation on the issues related to RV management (e.g. ISM, equipment, etc) arising since the last meeting (April 2003 – April 2004).
2. Up-date on implementation by RV operators on ISPS Code. (Atle Sangolt to contact IMO re ISPS Training Seminar for autumn period).
3. UK, France and Germany to be asked to make short presentations on their new RV strategies and construction plans.
4. Each RV Manager to outline steps taken to reduce /deal with on-board waste.

**Venue:** Accept invitation from Portugal to hold ERVO 2004 in Portugal.

**Provisional dates:** 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2004.

ANNEX 1

	<p><b>5<sup>th</sup> European Research Vessel Operators Meeting ERVO 2003. Constantza, Romania, 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> April 2003.</b></p>	
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Time	Day	Responsible
<b>24 April</b>		
16.00 – 20.00	Accommodation	GeoEcoMar
20.00 – 22.00	Ice breaker. Informal meeting (Hotel Mamaia)	GeoEcoMar
<b>25 April</b>		
8.30 – 8.45	Meeting opening Welcome and administrative remarks	GeoEcoMar
8.45 – 9.00	Review minutes of ERVO meeting 2002	ESF – Marine Board
9.00 – 9.30	Introduction to ERVO 2003	ESF – Marine Board
9.30 – 10.00	Presentation of National Romanian Marine Research Programme in the Black Sea	GeoEcoMar - Nicolae Panin
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee break	
10.30 – 11.00	Presentation of National Institute of Marine Geology and Geocology (GeoEcoMar)	GeoEcoMar - Nicolae Panin
11.00 – 12.30	Presentation of new RVs candidate countries (Bulgaria, Turkey)	Delcho Solakov (Bulgaria) Mustafa Ergun (Turkey) - <i>Message</i>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 14.00	Presentation of new RVs candidate countries (Poland, Romania)	Jan Piechura (Poland) Stefan Florescu (Romania)
14.00 – 15.00	Short presentations of RVs from EU members and associated states	Edward Cooper (United Kingdom) Hannu Gronvall (Finland) Caitriona Nic Aonghusa (Ireland) Michael Bosma (Sweden) André Pollentier (Belgium) Atle Sangolt (Norway) Vignir Thoroddsen (Iceland)
15.00 – 15.30	Short reports EU CREST Working Group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Member State RTD Programmes – Marine Science</li> <li>• European Infrastructures Forum – Marine Infrastructures Working Group</li> </ul>	ESF – Marine Board
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break	
16.00 – 16.30	AOB – INMARTECH Meeting – Cambridge (UK) - 2004	ESF
17.30 – 18.00	Marine Scientific Research in Romanian Universities	Corneliu Dinu (Romania) – University of Bucharest

Time	Day	Responsible
		Marian Traian Gomoiu (Romania) – University <i>Ovidius</i> Constanta Stelian Cojocaru (Romania) – Romanian Naval Academy Constanta
18.00 – 18.15	Wrap up the day	Chairman
18.15 – 18.30	Meeting adjourned	
<b>26 April</b>		
8.30 – 8.45	Meeting start	Chairman
8.45 – 9.15	Romanian Maritime Hydrographic Directorate	Valentin Ciucnea (Romania)
9.15 – 9.45	Coffee break	
9.45 – 10.15	EUROCEAN	EUROCEAN - <i>Message</i>
10.15 – 11.00	Presentation of Romanian RTD National Institute <i>Delta Dunarii</i>	Romulus Stiuca – General Director
11.00 – 12.30	Wrap up next meeting	ESF – Marine Board and managers of RVs
12.30 – 15.00	Lunch at Murfatlar vineyard (30 km away from Constanta)	GEOECOMAR
15.00 – 17.00	Visit to RV <i>Mare Nigrum</i> (GeoEcoMar), sail training vessel <i>Mircea cel Batran</i> (Romanian Naval Academy), diving support vessel <i>Grigore Antipa</i> (Constanta Diving Center)	GEOECOMAR Romanian Naval Academy Constanta Diving Center
<b>27 April</b>		
8.00	Departure to Bucharest airport	GEOECOMAR

Following the close of ERVO 2003 participants were invited to a wine tasting and lunch at the famous Murfatlar vineyard (Dobrogea area).

This was followed by visits to the Romanian RV *Mare Nigrum*, sail training vessel “*Mircea*” and diving support vessel “*Grigore Antipa*”

## Annex 2

### ERVO 2003 Participants List

No	Name	Country	Institution	E- mail
1	Geoffrey O'Sullivan	Ireland	Marine Institute - Dublin	gosullivan@marine.ie
2	Vignir Thoroddsen	Iceland	Marine Research Institute - Reykjavik	vignir@hafro.is
3	Alte Sangolt	Norway	Institute of Marine Research - Bergen	atle.sangolt@imr.no
4	André Pollentier	Belgium	BMM-Meetdienst Osstende	A.Pollentier@mumm.ac.be
5	Jan Piechura	Poland	Institute of Oceanology - Sopot	piechura@iopan.gda.pl
6	Delcho Solakov	Bulgaria	Institute of Oceanology - Varna	margeo@io-bas.bg
7	Michael Bosma	Sweden	Marine research Centre - Göteborg	mibo@gvc.gu.se
8	Edward Cooper	UK	Southampton Oceanography Centre	ebc@soc.soton.ac.uk
9	Denis Kavanagh	Ireland	Marine Institute - Galway	barry.kavanagh@mtds.ie
10	Caitriona Nic Aonghusa	Ireland	Marine Institute - Galway	Caitriona.nicaonghusa@marine.ie
11	Christo Slabakov	Bulgaria	Institute of Oceanology - Varna	margeo@io-bas.bg
12	Zhelyasko Dimitrov	Bulgaria	Institute of Oceanology - Varna	margeo@io-bas.bg
13	Hannu Grönvall	Finland	Finish Institute of Marine Research - Helsinki	Gronvall@fimr.fi
14	Nicolae Panin	Romania	GeoEcoMar - Bucharest	panin@geoecomar.ro
15	Marian Traian Gomoiu	Romania	GeoEcoMar – Constanta Branch	mtg@cier.ro mtg@datanet.ro
16	Gheorghe Oaie	România	GeoEcoMar - Bucharest	goaie@geoecomar.ro
17	Corneliu Dinu	Romania	University of Bucharest	dinuc@gg.unibuc.rop
18	Dumitru Ioane	Romania	University of Bucharest	ioane@gg.unibuc.ro
19	Gheorghe Viorel Ungureanu	Romania	University of Bucharest	v.g.ung@gg.unibuc.ro
20	Romulus Stiuca	Romania	RTD Institute Delta Dunarii - Tulcea	office@indd.tim.ro
21	Mustafa Ergun*	Turkey	Institute of Marine Sciences and Technology - Izmir	mergun@imst.deu.edu.tr
22	Laurent d'Ozouville*	Portugal	EUROCEAN - Lisboa	eurocean@fct.mces.pt
23	Stefan Florescu	Romania	GeoEcoMar – R/V Mare Nigrum	
24	Corina Furtuna	Romania	GeoEcoMar - Bucharest	cfurtuna@geoecomar.ro
25	Alina Pavel	Romania	GeoEcoMar - Bucharest	alina@geoecomar.ro
26	Dan Secrieru	Romania	GeoEcoMar – Constanta Branch	dsecrieru@yahoo.com
27	Radu Dimitriu	Romania	GeoEcoMar - Bucharest	dimitriu@geoecomar.ro

28	Valentin Ciucea	Romania	Romanian Maritime Hydrographic Directorate - Constanta	meteo@rdslink.ro
29	Stelian Cojocaru	Romania	Naval Academy <i>Mircea cel Batran</i> Constanta	cojocarus@yahoo.com cojocarus@home.ro
30	Ion Milan	Romania	Naval Academy <i>Mircea cel Batran</i> - Constanta	
31	Romeo Bosneagu	Romania	Naval Academy <i>Mircea cel Batran</i> - Constanta	
32	Gabriela Paraschiv	Romania	University <i>Ovidius</i> Constanta	gm_paraschiv@yahoo.com

\* Message