Madam, Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the second meeting of the European Commission's Sub-Group of Member States Experts on the integration of maritime surveillance to be held in Brussels on 16 March 2010 from 9:30am to 18:00pm at the Centre Albert Borschette, rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels. The third and fourth meetings have been scheduled in the same venue on 21 April 2010 and 16 June 2010 respectively from 09:30am to 18:00pm.

I would be grateful if you could pass this information to the competent national authorities dealing with maritime surveillance and appoint your representatives to attend the meeting, bearing in mind that three (3) seats will be available for each Member State delegation and that additional seats cannot be guaranteed.

As the integration of maritime surveillance also involves civil and military cooperation, this invitation is copied to Commission colleagues in DG RELEX responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy aspects who will be forwarding it to their correspondents. Member states are therefore asked to include in their delegation one representative from their military community responsible at national level for military maritime surveillance.

The meeting’s main aim is to have a first exchange of views on the draft Roadmap towards the Common Information Sharing Environment being prepared by the Commission at the request of the General Affairs and External Relations Council in its meeting on 17 November 2009. This draft, being the working document for the meeting, will be sent to delegations in the course of the next days. Attached you will find the draft meeting agenda, together with additional information on the reimbursement of expenses. The Commission will reimburse the travel expenses (tourist class) of one expert per Member State. The expert to be reimbursed has to be notified to the secretariat before the end of the meeting.
For any further information please contact:
Mr. Isto Mattila (tel. +32 (0)2 2958846, isto.mattila@ec.europa.eu) or
Mr. Thomas Strasser (tel. +32 (0)2 2968832, thomas.strasser@ec.europa.eu) or
Mr Christos Kontorouchas (tel. +32 (0)2 2958607, christos.kontorouchas@ec.europa.eu).

Yours sincerely,

Carla Montesi

cc: Messrs. P. Nemitz, V. Grimaud, E. Hartog, H. Siemers, L.-G. Wigemark,
    Interservice Sub-Group on integrated maritime surveillance,
    Permanent representations of Member States to the EU,
    Maritime Policy Member States' Experts Group,
    Participants of first meeting of the European Commission's Sub-Group of
    Member States Experts on the integration of maritime surveillance

Annex: Draft agenda, information document on the reimbursement of expenses