

Antigua & Barbuda's Electronic Port Clearance System



Maritime Single Window

- At the 41st FAL Meeting in April 2017, Norway offered Technical and Financial support to Antigua for the establishment and implementation of a MSW.
- A Concept Paper was adopted by both Countries in July 2017 and two teleconferences in July and September paved the way for the Kick-Off Event / In Country Consultation in October 2017.



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- October 2017 - As an internal Parliamentary procedure, the Cabinet's endorsement was sought as a demonstration of the political will to accomplish the objectives.
- Departments and Agencies/Principal Stakeholders were also given directives to ensure their full commitment to the level of cooperation and coordination necessary to bring the project to fruition.



Maritime Single Window

- Legal Framework - by virtue of the Electronic Transactions Act (2013) in relation to public authorities, where information is required to be submitted, and an approval, permit etc. to be granted, these requirements may be satisfied once presented in an electronic format...



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- Section 31-3 of the Act specifically indicates that notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any written law, and subject to specifications which may be made by the agency as to the manner, format etc. of the information required, where a written law requires a person to file any document or provide any information, create or retain any document, use a prescribed form or obtain a license, permit or approval, this is satisfied by an electronic record specified by the public authority for that purpose.



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- October 2017 - Steering Committee mobilized and decides on creation of a Technical Working Group and an Operational Working Group.
- June 2018 – 2nd Mission to Antigua. 1 week training session was conducted with representatives of Authorities and Stakeholders.

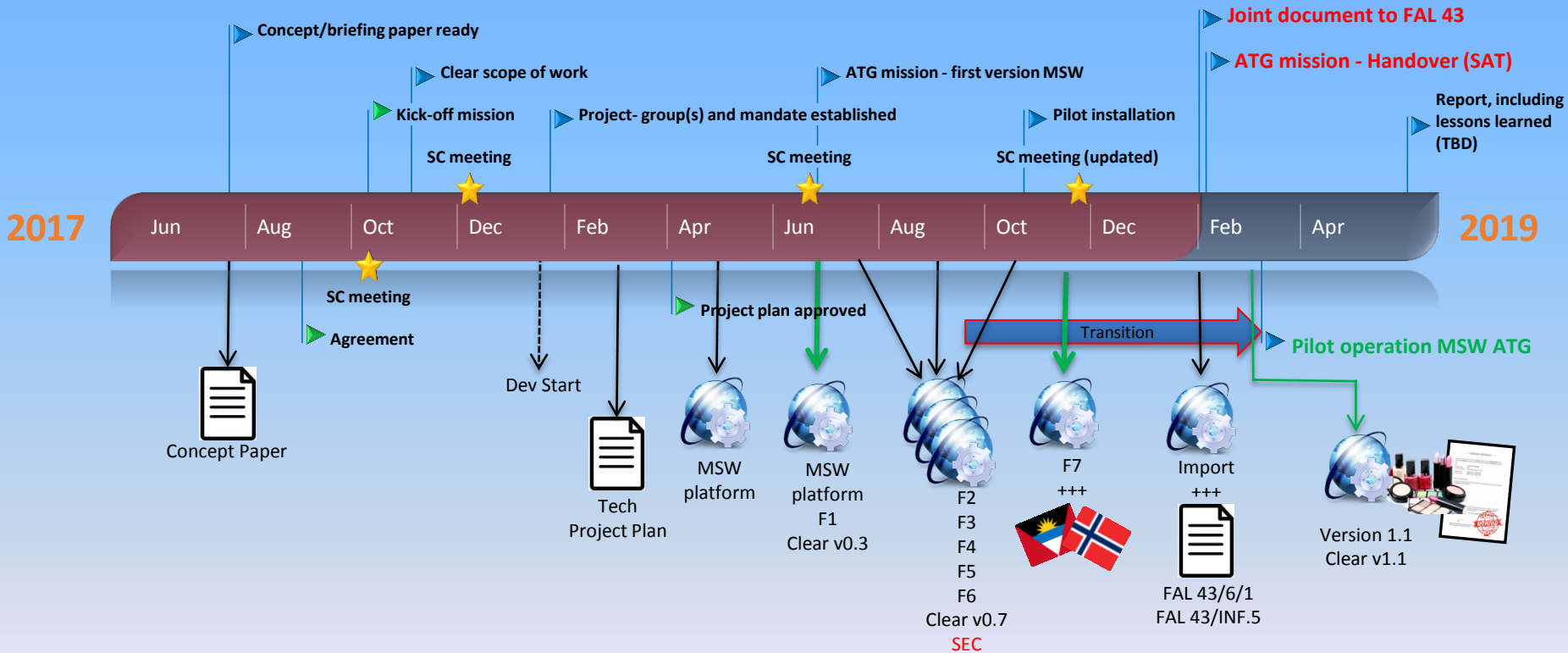


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- July – December 2018 - Continued testing with various agents and Authorities. Several updates and versions of the MSW are released for further testing.



MSW BACKGROUND



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- Feb 2019 – 3rd Mission to Antigua. Final Generic version of MSW deployed. Live testing conducted in situ at offices of Authorities, Stakeholders and aboard Cruise Ships.



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- Feb 2019 - Meeting with heads of Government agencies and stakeholders was convened to discuss matters related to next steps including the formalization of the operational arrangements among the Government agencies. Draft MOU was disseminated.



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- March 2019 – MSW installed on local servers. MOU signed by heads of Government agencies.
- April 2019 – Official handover of generic MSW at FAL 43 in London. Transition period from generic MSW to Electronic Port Clearance System begins.
- 01 Nov 2019 – Full transition to EPCS



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