



COMMON MARITIME AGENDA FOR THE BLACK SEA 2021 - COORDINATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

Regional Webinar on Greening the Maritime Transport & Preparedness for Marine Pollution Prevention in the Black Sea Region

11 November 2021

(12:15-CET Time, 13:15-EET Time and 14:15 -Turkish Time)

CONCEPT NOTE

The Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea (CMA) is a sea basin initiative that aims at supporting regional cooperation for a more sustainable Blue Economy in the Black Sea. It was endorsed in May 2019 by the Bucharest Ministerial Declaration.

The Black Sea is a unique marine environment with an enclosed coastal basin. The region is at environmental crossroads; however, pollution, oil spills, marine traffic and invasive species threaten its waters and make the region more vulnerable to the climate change. Annually, some 95,000 tons of unrecoverable oil waste is discharged into the Black Sea because of operational discharges of vessels and accidents, as well as through land-based sources. Commercial shipping volumes in the Black Sea are relatively small, but are growing rapidly and present a growing risk. The number of vessels passing through the Turkish Straits is around 40.000 including a one fifth of tankers by 2020.

In this framework, the regional workshop on “Greening the Maritime Transport and Preparedness for Marine Pollution Prevention in the Black Sea Region”, addresses the first two goals of the CMA: (i) Healthy marine ecosystems; (ii) Innovative Blue Economy. The event, organised by the 2021 CMA Turkish coordination, intends to explore pathways for a green transition of the maritime transport in the Black Sea by discussing green shipping technologies and R&D initiatives and introducing financing instruments for innovations towards green and sustainable shipping. It is also aimed at sharing knowledge and strengthening cooperation between the littoral countries of the Black Sea particularly on the prevention of pollution and preparedness for common response.

For this purpose, the workshop will discuss key challenges for a sustainable green maritime transport in the Black Sea and the question of how to tackle them by the support of a sound regional cooperation. The approach of the EU Communication for a Sustainable Blue Economy and its contribution to the European Green Deal will be explained highlighting its external dimension and the link with the priority on green connectivity in the Black Sea.

The workshop will be enriched with the developments of the regulatory framework, technologies and R&D Initiatives. To this aim, transition to zero- and low-carbon fuels to drive decarbonisation for maritime transportation will be discussed, for reducing carbon emissions with specific emphasis on the IMO Initial Strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions from shipping and European Green Deal. Research and development activities will be covered within the framework of the Black Sea Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and international initiatives. Moreover, WestMed Sea Basin Initiative will share best practises.

IPA Project on Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping will be shared with the participants to provide an example of blended finance opportunities in supporting green transformation in shipping. Taking this opportunity, comprehensive guiding information will be provided for the promotion of construction of low-emission, carbon-neutral new ships and retrofitting of the existing ships to achieve sustainable and green shipbuilding by the participating International Financial Institutions.

The workshop will also allow a discussion platform for the participants on the existing mechanisms in the Black Sea region for marine pollution response and underline the role of regional cooperation in emergency response based on the recent oil spill case occurred in the Eastern Mediterranean. This will be followed by sharing the experiences of the Turkish National Maritime Safety Centre, which has been recently established for such emergency response cases. The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) will also join the workshop for advising on the technical services of the Agency and ongoing projects in the Region.

DRAFT AGENDA

14.15– Welcome by the CMA Coordination, Mustafa Imamoğlu, Head of Department for the EU Affairs, DG of the EU and Foreign Relations, Turkish Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure

14:20 – 14.50 Green Transition of Maritime Transport in the Black Sea

- Key challenges for a sustainable green maritime transport in the Black Sea, *Sergii Kravchenko, Project Manager transport BSEC PERMIS*
- The EU Communication for a Sustainable Blue Economy, *Patrizia Busolini, Policy officer, Sea-basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security, DG MARE*
- Green connectivity in the Black Sea, *Jocelyn Guitton, Coordinator for EU - OSCE relations, EEAS*

14.50–15.30 Green Shipping: Regulatory Framework, Technologies, R&D Initiatives

- Transition to low-carbon fuels to drive decarbonisation for maritime transportation in terms of regulatory framework, *Kyriaki Bairaktari, Maritime Transport and Logistics, DG MOVE*
- How to support green technologies under the research and innovation agenda, *Mustafa Yücel, Associate Professor & Vice Director Institute of Marine Sciences of the Middle East Technical University, Black Sea CONNECT/SRIA*
- Best practices from Western Mediterranean Sea Basin: Technical group on Green Shipping / Sustainable transport, *Beladjine Boumedienne, Blue economy and Green Transport Expert of Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Green Transport and Blue Economy of Algeria, WestMed Sea Basin initiative*
- Atlantic Smart Ports Blue Acceleration Network (AspBAN), *Stavros Kalognomos, Executive Secretary CPMR Black Sea Commission*

15.30 – 15:40 Break

15:40–16.30 Financing Instruments and Initiatives for Innovations towards Green and Sustainable Shipping

- IPA Project on Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping
 - *Gökтуğ Kara, Team Coordinator for the Sustainable Mobility and Climate Change, EU Delegation in Turkey*
 - *Panayotis Zacharoudakis, Team Leader for the Technical Assistance Project for Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping in Turkey*
- Financial mechanisms for supporting green transformation in shipping;
 - *Michaela Hauf, Team Leader sector connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change, DG NEAR*
 - *Asli Erden Ozturk Associate Director, Senior Banker, Sustainable Infrastructure Group, Julia Manning, Associate Director Senior Environmental Advisor, EBRD*
 - *Andrew Losos, Sr. Sustainable Transport Specialist, World Bank*
- Promoting construction of low-emission, carbon-neutral new ships and retrofitting of the existing ships to achieve sustainable and green shipbuilding, *Mehtap Karahalli Özdemir, General Secretary, Turkish Shipbuilders' Association (GISBIR)*

16:30–17.00: Preparedness for Marine Pollution Prevention in the Black Sea Region

- European Maritime Transport Environmental Report 2021 and Black and Caspian Sea Project, CleanSeaNet Service, *Erik Noor, Project Officer for Technical Assistance to ENP countries Capacity Building, EMSA*
- Existing mechanisms for marine pollution response and the role of regional cooperation in emergency response in the Black Sea, *Avtandil Gegenava Head of Search & Rescue and Vessel Traffic Monitoring Department, Maritime Transport Agency, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia*
- Presentation of Turkish National Maritime Safety Centre and information regarding recent oil spill case in the Eastern Mediterranean, *Yusuf Koray Küçük, Ship Surveyor, Department of Marine Environment, Turkish Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure*

17.00-17:10 Conclusions by the CMA Coordination, Hakan Demirlioğlu, Head of International Relations and Maritime Policy, DG of Maritime Affairs, Turkish Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure