



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION Audiovisual Services

Extracts from the press conference by Maria Damanaki on the Atlantic Action Plan

Type: [Summary of press conference](#) Référence: [I078206](#) Durée: [02:58](#) Lieu: [Brussels - EC/Berlaymont](#)

On 13 May 2013, Maria Damanaki, Member of the EC in charge of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, held a press conference on the Atlantic Action Plan adopted by the European Commission to revitalise the marine and maritime economy in the Atlantic Ocean Area. The Action Plan aims to show how the EU's Atlantic Member States, their regions and the Commission can help create sustainable growth in coastal regions and drive forward the "blue economy", which has the potential to provide 7 million jobs in Europe by 2020. At the same time, the environmental and ecological stability of the Atlantic Ocean must be preserved.



HEURE	DESCRIPTION	DUREE
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Exterior view of the EC Berlaymont building	00:00:07
00:00:12	Arrival of Maria Damanaki, Member of the EC in charge of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, in the press room	00:00:04
00:00:15	SOUNDBITE by Maria Damanaki (in ENGLISH) saying that we should not forget that the Atlantic plays a very important role in Europe's history, economy and identity; it also contains tremendous potential for Europe's future development; the Action Plan for the Atlantic Ocean is the Commission's response to this idea of having a new perspective about the Atlantic and the EU's presence there; this Action Plan is addressed to five Member States in particular - Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Spain and Portugal; these are the Atlantic Member States.	00:00:43
00:00:59	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:05
00:01:04	SOUNDBITE by Maria Damanaki (in ENGLISH) on the main priority areas: saying that there are five priorities; first, oceanographic research in order to better understand how the ocean affects us and how we will react to climate change and increasing exploitation activities; the response to the threats and disasters needs to be better organised and investment in these areas must be facilitated; it is also necessary to develop offshore renewables: the massive expansion of wind power that is	00:01:19

	renewables, the massive expansion of wind power, that is already planned, will transform our seas; there are new projects to generate energy from tides and waves; third, we need to improve education and training of skilled people in order to go into these high demanding sectors of the economy; then we need some more plans about sustainable maritime tourism and the Atlantic offers many varieties.	
00:02:22	Cutaway of the audience	00:00:05
00:02:27	SOUNDBITE by Maria Damanaki (in ENGLISH) on fisheries: saying that she is waiting for an increasing boost for aquaculture projects; we need fish farms to contribute more to our fish consumption; so she hopes the Council will finalize this procedure.	00:00:23
00:02:50	General view of the press conference	00:00:08