International Congress

Blue Growth in the Black Sea region – perspectives and opportunities

19th – 20th September 2013

Riviera Holiday Club, Golden Sands **or**
Hotel "Meliá Grand Hermitage", Golden Sands
Varna, BULGARIA

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Congress will emphasize on the opportunities in Black Sea region for the development of blue economy and the conditions for sustainable growth and jobs. Main topics will be local and global policies for sustainable growth of the maritime sector, the development of the regional maritime clusters on the background of the best practices from other European maritime clusters and the role of the clusters to enhance the strength and development of maritime sectors. There will be high-level political debates as well as more practical exchanges between the industry stakeholders.

Participants invited:

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA – Mrs. Nikolina NIKOLOVA, advisor for European regional development

EUROPEAN COMMISSION Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries - Ms Maria DAMANAKI, Commissioner

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats – Mrs. Marusya LYUBCHEVA, Member

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND ENERGY – Mr. Dragomir STOYNEV, Minister - TBC

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS – Mr. Danail PAPAZOV, Minister

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD - EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE – Maidan SAKARDJIEV, Executive Director

Regional Governor of Varna - Mr. Ivan Velikov

Regional Governor of Burgas - Mr. Pavel Marinov

Regional Governor of Rousse – Mr. Andrian Raykov

Mayor of Varna - Mr. Ivan Portnikh - TBC

Official authorities from other countries of Black Sea Region (ROMANIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE, RUSSIA) – representatives, TBC according the invitation list attached.

European Network of Maritime Clusters – Vice-President Mr. Fabrice Maire

Bulgarian Association of Business Clusters

Marine Cluster Bulgaria

Representatives from the Banking and Financial Sectors, Maritime Industry and Business, Non-Government Organizations, Universities and Research institutes etc.

19th September 2013, 9:00 hrs to 15:30 hrs

8.00 – 9.00 Registration of participants

9:00 -12:30 Morning session

9:00 – 9:20 Welcome Addresses

- EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats – Mrs. Marusya LYUBCHEVA

- Mayor of Varna or Regional Governor of Varna - TBC

- Organisers – Marine Cluster Bulgaria

9:20 – 9:40 Keynote presentation by Commissioner Maria DAMANAKI

9.40 – 10.00 Keynote presentation by MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

10.00 – 10.20 Keynote presentation by MARINE CLUSTER BULGARIA

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break. Press conference

11:00 – 12:30 Plenary session

Chair: Professional Speaker

1. Integrated Maritime Policy in the Black Sea – **European Commission/ DG MARE (Beate)**

Integrated approach for sustainable development in sectors of marine energy, aquaculture, tourism and mineral resources (Blue Growth)

2. Cross-border and cross-sectoral cooperation for sustainable development of maritime sectors. The role of maritime clusters in the enhancement of collaboration.

European Network of Maritime Clusters - Vice-President Mr. Fabrice Maire

3. Blue Growth in the *national policy frameworks*
Ministry of Transport or Economy/ Director level - TBC

12:30 -14:00 Lunch break

14:00 -15:30 Sectors-round table/oriented discussions

Chair: Mr. Fabrice Maire, Vice-President of European Network of Maritime Clusters

1. Development of Maritime clusters in Bulgaria and the region – challenges and chances; way ahead
- Results of the Clusters project – Presentation of Marine cluster Bulgaria
- Best European clusters practices for the development of blue economy: - ENMC Representative
- Practices of clusters in Black Sea Region - TBC
- Representative of a Department of the Ministry of Economy and Energy
- Research activities within the cluster: Andrey Andreev - Representative of the Technical University of Varna
- *Q&A*

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 18:30 Visit to the “Bulgarian Ship Hydrodynamics Centre”

19:30 Official Dinner

20th September 2013, 9:00 hrs to 16:30 hrs

8.00 – 9.00 Registration of participants

09:00 – 12:30 Sectors-round table/oriented discussions

09:00 – 10:30 Blue technologies for regional and short sea shipping -

Chair: Mr. Luciano Manzon, Secretary of Waterborn TP, Chairman of the Sea Europe RDI Committee

- *Prospects of trade and maritime transport in the Danube and Black Sea regions - TBC*
- *Short sea ship technologies (including ship design, high speed craft, etc.)* - Prof. Petar Georgiev, Technical University of Varna

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 The EU fisheries policy and fisheries cooperation in the Black Sea

Chair: Yordan Gospodinov, PhD – Executive Director of AFBB BG Fish - TBC

- *EU fisheries and integrated maritime policy issues for the Black Sea region*
- *Aquaculture opportunities for the Black Sea region*

Parallel event: 10:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs Stakeholders exhibition day During the event the participants will have the opportunity to meet each other, to discover potential business partners, to discuss topical issues and exchange ideas for collaboration.

A number of exhibition stands will be arranged for participants willing to show exhibition materials, poster etc.

12:30 -14:00 Lunch break