CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO SELECT MEMBERS OF
THE EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING FORUM (ESSF)

1. BACKGROUND

By Decision¹, the Commission has extended the duration of the mandate of the Expert Group on maritime transport sustainability - the European Sustainable Shipping Forum until 30 June 2018, and decided to launch a new public call for participation, in accordance with the Sole article of the Decision.

The task of the ESSF is to assist the Commission in implementing the European Union’s activities and programmes aimed at fostering sustainable maritime transport. The ESSF provides a platform for structural dialogue, exchange of technical knowledge, cooperation, and coordination between the Commission, EU Member States, EEA countries, and relevant maritime stakeholders.

The initial idea of the ESSF was to advance the Sustainable Waterborne Transport Toolbox's efforts for a cost-efficient and coherent implementation of the provisions of the Directive 2012/33/EU as regards the sulphur content of marine fuels which transposes the international low sulphur standards into EU law. But the mandate of the Forum is broader than that, and presumes that the group will assist the Commission in implementing the Union's activities and programs with the aim to foster sustainable maritime transport.

The currents scope of the ESSF covers broad variety of aspects having impact on maritime transport, and envisages in particular to:

- development framework conditions for the use and deployment of marine LNG;
- uptake of the scrubbing technology;
- development innovative financial mechanisms in support of clean shipping;
- competitiveness aspects of shipping;
- implementation and revision of the Directive 2000/59/EC on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues;
- development of additional legal acts (implementing and delegated acts) required by Regulation 2015/757 (MRV) on monitoring, reporting and verification of carbon dioxide emissions from maritime transport.

Bearing in mind the broader aspects of sustainability to be covered, and the significant interest demonstrated by relevant organisations who did not apply to the first call for membership, the Commission has decided to organise a new call for applications and

¹ Commission Decision of 7.01.2016 on amending Decision C(2013)5984 final of 24 September 2013 on setting-up the group of experts on maritime transport sustainability - The European Sustainable Shipping Forum (ESSF)- C(2015)9741 final
increase the total number of participants in the Forum by appointing eight additional members to the current number of 60 members. This will give the possibility for both the existing members and potentially interested experts, to apply or re-consider their application for the extended mandate.

2. **FEATURES OF THE GROUP**

2.1. **Composition**

In accordance with the Sole Article of the above Commission Decision, amending Article 4 points 1-3 of the Commission Decision C(2013)5984 of 24 September 2013, the Forum should comprise representatives of the 28 Member States’ transport and/or environmental authorities and 40 representatives of public and/or private organisations, active in maritime transport related areas as enumerated in Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Decision C(2015)9741 final.

The group of experts shall consist of maximum 68 members and shall be chaired by a representative of the Commission.

2.2. **Terms of the appointment**

Members shall be appointed for 2.5 years, and shall remain in office until that time unless their term of office ends in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 7 of the Decision C(2013)5984. Their term may be renewed for the same duration if the Commission extends the duration of the Decision.

2.3. **Confidentiality**

The members of the group shall respect the conditions of confidentiality mentioned in Article 5, paragraph 4 of the Decision C(2013)5984.

2.4. **Transparency**

Data on members and personal data shall be treated in accordance with Article 4 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Decision C(2013)5984.

2.5. **Attendance at meetings**

Applicants should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, to contribute actively to discussions in the group, to examine and provide comments on documents under discussion and to act, as appropriate, as ‘rapporteurs’ on ad hoc basis.

The group shall normally meet on Commission premises in accordance with expert meeting procedures.

Applicants should take into account that meetings generally involve preparatory work.

3. **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Interested applicants for membership according to Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Decision C(2015)9741 are required to submit their application to the European Commission.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it includes the documents referred to in chapter 4.2 of this call, sent at the latest by the deadline referred to thereafter. All the
above mentioned documents should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially. All the documents mentioned above will be used in the selection procedure.

Each application must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure. If another language is used, it would be desirable to include a summary of the CV in English.

The application must also clearly specify the stakeholder category for which the application is made (see Annex 1) and must clearly indicate the name and references of the organisation and include the necessary documentation. All applying organisations must propose their representative(s), and provide for each of them individual information. Supporting documents (e.g. publications) might be requested at a later stage.

3.1. Deadline for application

The duly signed and scanned applications must be sent not later than 2 May 2016, to the following e-mail address: MOVE-ESSF@ec.europa.eu. The date of the e-mail will be the date of sending.

4. REQUIREMENTS

4.1. Selection Criteria

The Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications (points will be given during the assessment as follows):

- criterion 1 -- representativeness, market share and socio-economic and/or environmental relevance of the organisation in the maritime transport domain at EU level, (maximum 10 points);
- criterion 2 -- scope of competence and experience of the organisation in maritime transport sustainability issues, (maximum 5 points);
- criterion 3 -- experience and hierarchical position of the proposed representative(s) as well as their knowledge of the English language, (maximum 5 points);

In addition, representatives of the ESSF members must be nationals of a Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area or, if appropriate, of an acceding country, or a country which has signed an association agreement.

4.2. Supporting evidence

Each application shall include the following supporting document:

(1) a cover letter explaining the motives for answering this call
(2) a stakeholder category declaration form (Annex 1)
(3) a selection criteria form (Annex 2) clearly documenting the professional experience and expertise as against the criteria listed in 4.1.
a curriculum vitae (CV), preferably not exceeding three pages and in English, where applicants must document their professional experience and expertise in full. The CV should also contain information on the following aspects:

a) the organisation for which the applicant is working, the length of time he/she has worked there, and the position and level of responsibility held there.

b) other authorities/organisations, for which he/she has worked in the past.

c) his/her specific competences, notably in relation to the relevant EU maritime transport / marine environment protection related area.

d) the specific projects and or tasks he/she has been involved in.

e) any work that he/she has published on EU maritime transport/marine environment protection.

f) any experience he/she has acquired at EU and international level.

g) his/her major professional challenges foreseen in the near future.

h) any interests that he/she has, which may prejudice his or her independence.

All CVs should be submitted in the European format (see Annex 3):
http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/europass/home/vernav/Europass+Documents/Europass+CV.csp

5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure will consist of an assessment of the applications against the criteria (points will be given as set out in 4.1 and added for each applicant), followed by the establishment of a list of most suitable applicants in each stakeholder category (based on total points in descending order), and concluded by the appointment of the members of the group and their representatives, as well as possible alternates. In the selection process the Commission will also endeavour to strike a balance within the ESSF in terms of representativeness of applicants, gender and geographical origin.

Information on the results of the call for applications will be published at least on the Internet site of DG MOVE.

6. MEETINGS EXPENSES

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the group shall be reimbursed by the Commission in accordance with the provisions in force at the Commission within the limits of the available budgetary appropriations. Members will receive no remuneration for their duties.

Working language for both documents and meetings will be English.

For any further information, please contact:

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