



ETF and ECSA joint statement on the proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment

Reduction of the administrative burden finally on the horizon

The EU Social Partners in the maritime sector, ECSA and ETF, WELCOME the Commission's proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment that reflects their calls for the revision of the Reporting Formalities Directive and CALL on the co-legislators to be ambitious and to PRIORITISE this important file.

Shipping still does not enjoy a genuine single market in Europe and remains hampered by endless paperwork. This is to the detriment of the crew, who face an increased workload which impacts negatively on rest-time and job satisfaction. It also affects the smooth overall shipping operation, especially for short sea operators who frequently call at EU ports within short time spans. The impact assessment indicated that 4.6 million hours per year are spent on fulfilling administrative duties for ships calling at EU ports.

ECSA and ETF believe the new proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Maritime Single Window environment is an important step towards real harmonisation and re-use of information and can reduce the administrative burden on crew and operators caused by the previous directive.

European seafarers and shipowners call on the European Parliament and the Member States to be **ambitious** and to adapt the proposal so as to guarantee full harmonisation and no duplication of reporting – by creating a harmonised, exhaustive list of the data elements that need to be provided and allowing additional requirements only in exceptional and duly justified circumstances.

They also call for the “reporting once” principle to be guaranteed – submission of data must be necessary only once and transmitted to all parties that require it within a single Member State and in other Member States. The Regulation must also guarantee a cost-efficient single EU level interface for submissions. New systems must be technologically neutral and “future proof” in order to avoid stifling investments and innovation.

For all the above reasons, ECSA and ETF call upon the co-legislators to prioritise this revision and ensure the establishment of a European Maritime Single Window during this legislature.

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