

## 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.

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**Draft Agenda**  
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**14.15– Welcome**

- CMA Coordinator, DG MARE

**14:30 – 15:00 Green Transition of Maritime Transport in the Black Sea**

- *BSEC* > Key challenges for a sustainable green maritime transport in the Black Sea and how regional cooperation could contribute and shape our common future
- *DG MARE*> The approach of the EU Communication for a Sustainable Blue Economy and its contribution to the Green Deal and its external dimension
- *EEAS*> Priority on green connectivity in the Black Sea

**15:00–15:30 Green Shipping: Regulatory Framework, Technologies, R&D Initiatives**

- *DG MOVE* > Transition to low-carbon fuels to drive decarbonisation for maritime transportation in terms of regulatory framework
- *SRIA – BS Connect* > How to support green technologies under the research and innovation agenda - Black Sea SRIA/International initiatives supporting R&D activities
- *WestMed Sea Basin initiative* > Best practices from Western Mediterranean Sea Basin: Technical group on Green Shipping / Sustainable transport
- *CPMR* > Atlantic Smart Ports Blue Acceleration Network (AspBAN)

**15:30 – 16:00 Financing Instruments and Initiatives for Innovations towards Green and Sustainable Shipping**

- *EU Delegation to Turkey* > Financial mechanisms for supporting green transformation in shipping; IPA Project on Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping
- Promoting construction of low-emission, carbon-neutral new ships and retrofitting of the existing ships to achieve sustainable and green shipbuilding
  - *CMA Members and/or Representatives of Industrial Stakeholders*
  - *European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)*
  - *Black Sea Trade Development Bank (BSTDB)*
  - *European Investment Bank (EIB)*

**16:00 – 16:10 Break**

**16:10–17:10: Preparedness for Marine Pollution Prevention in the Black Sea Region**

- *European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)*> European Maritime Transport Environmental Report 2021 (EMTER) and Black and Caspian Sea Project, CleanSeaNet Service
- *CMA Members*> Existing mechanisms for marine pollution response and the role of regional cooperation in emergency response in the Black Sea
- *World Bank and BSEC* > Blueing the Black Sea Programme
- *MoTI - DGMA*> Information regarding National Maritime Safety Centre and recent oil spill case in the Eastern Mediterranean by Turkey

**17:10 – 17:20 Conclusions by the CMA Coordination**