

Newsletter June 2017

The EU Council adopts a set of conclusions on maritime transport policy

European Transport Ministers agreed on the conclusions that outline the priorities for the EU's maritime transport policy until 2020.

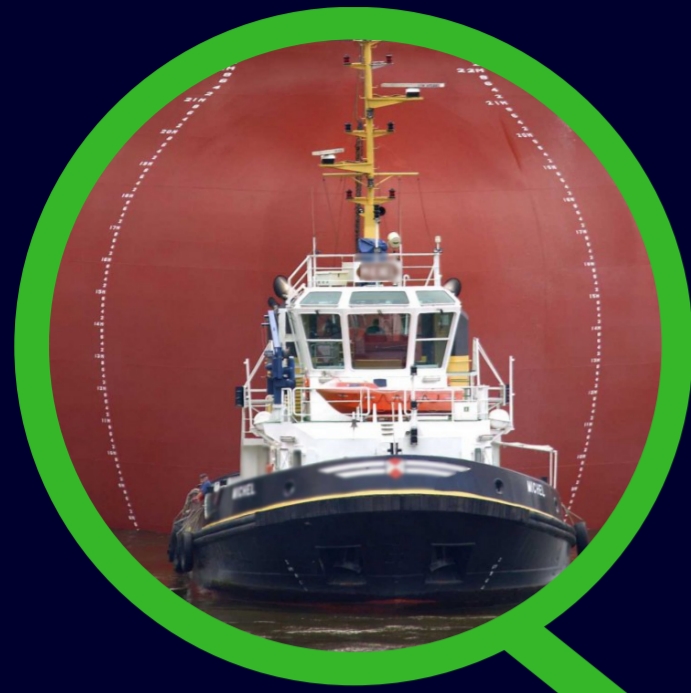
The document endorses the text of the "Valletta Declaration" adopted at the informal ministerial conference organised at the end of March by the Maltese Presidency. The conclusions' priorities are grouped under the following headings:

- Competitiveness – a level playing field in Europe and abroad
- Digitalisation
- Decarbonisation and Reduction of Air Emissions

Among other issues, the Ministers acknowledge the need to "provide stable, predictable and competitive framework conditions based on high international standards for safety, security, environment and social conditions", remark the commitment to boost multimodality and to reduce bureaucratic burdens by using digital technologies and addresses the skills and labour shortage problems.

"The conclusions define the priorities and set out the challenges that will affect the EU shipping sector during the next decade. It is a good first step towards developing an effective and ambitious policy that may help the EU maritime industry maintain its leading position at the global level" commented Anna Maria Darmanin, ETA Secretary General.

"The European Tugowners Association is looking forward to keeping the engagement with the EU institutions in order to assist them in the definition and implementation of the right policies for our sector", concluded Ms. Darmanin.





ETA invited to be the sponsor for the renaming of a Tug

Kotug Smit celebrated the beginning of the herring season at the port of Rotterdam with its annual "Herring party". This year, ETA's Secretary General, Anna Maria Darmanin had the privilege to attend the event and rename the Tug Hamsphire in what was the highlight of the evening. During the event, Rene Raaijmakers, Kotug Smit Towage CEO, announced that the company would expand its fleet with three new Damen-built tugs, two ASD Tugs 2913 and an ATD Tug 2412 Twin Fin. Until these tugs were delivered, Kotug Smit shall be utilising the Hamsphire, a Damen-built ASD 2810 Hybrid tug which is on charter to the company.



ETA collaborates with its stakeholders to define the priorities of the sector

ETA's Secretariat attended the first meeting of the "I AM", the industry alliance of the logistic chain stakeholders, which took place at TOC 2017 in Amsterdam. The members adopted a common position on the digitalization of the sector and agreed on the priority topics for 2018. These are the following:

Single transport document

Connectivity and intermodality

Attracting and retaining talents, training and re-training staff to better adapt to change

The meeting was followed by a conference within the framework of TOC 2017 in which Anna Maria Darmanin and other partners of the Alliance explained the work, goals and challenges of the I AM.



The EC releases a study on port's infrastructure charges to promote green maritime transport

The European Commission has recently published a report on the environmental practices and policies of major European ports. The study aims to examine the benefits and costs of a wider implementation of environmental charging. Moreover, it compiles guidelines to aid port's authorities to develop and enforce these schemes. Among the conclusions, the report calls for greater harmonization between the different schemes and, in order to achieve it, the study recommends approving a set of mandatory requirements to establish a European definition of "green" ships in terms of waste management. You can read the report here

Next events

21-22 September

Connecting Europe
Conference

Tallin

30 November

FEPURT 3rd Stakeholders'
Conference

Brussels

