



Deployment of innovations key for achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal

The Waterborne Technology Platform welcomes the revision of the EU ETS Directive, which will stimulate the deployment of innovative technologies

Brussels, 26 April 2023

On 25 April 2023, the European Council adopted five laws that will enable the EU to cut greenhouse gas emissions within the main sectors of the economy, including maritime transport. One of the laws concerns the revision of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) Directive, since emissions from shipping will be included within its scope for the first time. Most large vessels will be included within the scope from the start, while others, namely offshore vessels, will be included in the 'European MRV' regulation on monitoring, reporting and verification of CO₂ emissions from maritime transport first, and in the EU ETS later. Non-CO₂ emissions (methane and N₂O) will be included in the 'MRV' regulation from 2024 and in the EU ETS from 2026. The laws will now be signed by the Council and the European Parliament and published in the EU's Official Journal before entering into force.

Part of the revenues from the EU ETS will be allocated to the [EU Innovation Fund](#). The Innovation Fund will continue to support investments to decarbonise maritime transport, including investments in energy efficiency of ships, ports and short-sea shipping, electrification, sustainable alternative fuels, such as hydrogen and ammonia that are produced using renewable energy sources, zero-emission propulsion technologies such as wind technologies, and innovations related to ice-class ships. Special attention will be given to innovative projects contributing to decarbonising the maritime sector and reducing its climate impacts, including black carbon emissions. Dedicated maritime topics in Innovation Fund calls for proposals are to be expected. Those calls should take biodiversity protection, noise and water pollution issues into account. As far as maritime transport is concerned, projects with clear added value for the European Union should be eligible.

Eero Lehtovaara, Chair of the Board of Directors, Waterborne TP, said: *"The deployment of innovations via the EU Innovation Fund will be key to achieve the emission targets of the European Green Deal in a timely and cost-efficient manner. Currently, the waterborne transport sector is already eligible to apply for support from the EU Innovation Fund. However, as it is essential to ensure support also for the further roll-out of the deployment of innovations, we welcome the revision of the EU ETS. In addition, our sector comprises many small- and medium sized enterprises, and we should make sure that these companies will benefit from the support available. In the context of research, development and innovation, the "Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport" partnership is committed to developing technologies needed to eliminate GHG emissions, as well as other pollution to air and water (including underwater radiated noise), and which are vital to achieving the objectives to achieving the emission targets.*



WATERBORNE TP has been set up as an industry-oriented Technology Platform to establish a continuous dialogue between all waterborne stakeholders, such as classification societies, shipbuilders, shipowners, maritime equipment manufacturers, infrastructure and service providers, universities or research institutes, and with the EU Institutions, including Member States (www.waterborne.eu). The members of Waterborne TP comprise members as well as associated members from both maritime and inland navigation countries, representing about 19 Member States. In addition, the Associations member of the Waterborne Technology Platform represent the broader waterborne sector throughout the entire EU.

Enquiries concerning how to join and become more closely involved in the “Zero-Emission Waterborne Transport” partnership or other activities of the Waterborne TP can be sent to: Jaap Gebraad, Secretary General Waterborne TP, jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu, tel: +32 493 835 626