



European Economic and Social Committee
Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society

CONFERENCE

"ENHANCING THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE MARITIME PROFESSIONS"

11 March 2010, EESC

Draft programme

8.30 a.m. **Registration of the participants**

9 - 9.30 **Introduction**

Moderator: **Mr János TÓTH**, President of the Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society

- **Mr Mario SEPI**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
- **Mr Traian BĂSESCU**, President of Romania (*tbc*)
- **Mr Siim KALLAS**, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Transport (*tbc*)

9.30 - 10.45 **Panel 1: The challenge of meeting operators' and seafarers' needs**

The needs of European maritime operators for qualified labour are not covered while maritime professions suffer from unattractiveness. This panel will bring together representatives of ship-owners and seafarers and look at the reasons for this situation.

Moderator: **Dr Anna BREDIMA**

- **Representative**, International Maritime Organisation (*tbc*)
- **Mr Panayotis TSAKOS**, captain and ship-owner
- **Mr Jon WHITLOW**, Seafarers' Section Secretary, International

Transport Workers' Federation (*tbc*)

- **Ms Cleopatra DOUMBIA-HENRY**, Director of International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Organisation

General discussion

10.45 - 11.15 **Coffee Break**

11.15 - 12.45 **Panel 2: Maritime education and training: raising the skills of crews for global career opportunities**

Can the situation of a lack of qualified maritime staff be improved by better or more accessible maritime education? What could be done by education and training institutions to promote maritime professions? How do training institutions cooperate with the industry? This panel will also look into the efforts made to raise standards, and the revision of the STCW Convention. Maritime education as a means of social ascendance.

Moderator: **Mr Fotis KARAMITSOS**, Director "Maritime transport", DG Transport and Energy, European Commission

- **Mr Patrick BLONDÉ**, General Director, Antwerp Maritime Academy (*tbc*)
- **Representative**, World Maritime University (*tbc*)
- **Mr Marc NUYTEMANS**, Managing Director/CEO, Exmar Ship Management N.V.
- **Ms Pia E. VOSS**, Vice-Director, Labour Market Department, Denmark's Ship-owners' Association

General discussion

12.45 - 2.30 **Buffet lunch hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee**
Atrium 6

2.30 - 4 **Panel 3: Concrete actions at industry and European level**

This panel will look at possible lines of action at industry, national and European level.

Moderator: **Mr Dimitrios THEOLOGITIS**, Head of Unit "Maritime transport & ports policy; maritime security", DG Transport and Energy, European

Commission

- **Mr Brian SIMPSON**, Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on Transport and Tourism (*tbc*)
- **Mr Alfons GUINIER**, Secretary-General, European Community Shipowners' Associations
- **Mr Eduardo CHAGAS**, Secretary-General, European Transport Workers' Federation
- **Sir Robert COLEMAN**, Chairman of the EC Task Force on maritime employment and competitiveness

General discussion

4. - 4.30 **Conclusions**

- **Dr Anna BREDIMA**
- **Mr János TÓTH**

Interpretation will be available from/into English and French.
