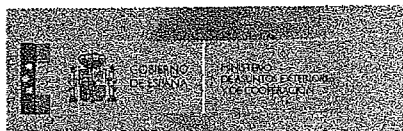




EUROPEAN
COMMISSION



GOBIERNO DEL
PRINCIPADO DE ASTURIAS

Brussels/Madrid/Oviedo,

**JOINT LETTER TO EUROPEAN MARITIME POLICY STAKEHOLDERS
BY JOE BORG, MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION RESPONSIBLE FOR MARITIME
AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES, DIEGO LÓPEZ GARRIDO, STATE SECRETARY FOR EUROPEAN
AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION OF SPAIN
AND VICENTE ÁLVAREZ ARECES, PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY
OF ASTURIAS**

**Subject: Invitation to contribute to European Maritime Day 2010: maritime
events across Europe and Stakeholder Conference in Gijón, Spain, on 19-
21 May 2010¹**

The success of the European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference held on 18-20 May 2009 in Rome² confirmed the key role of stakeholders in shaping the Integrated Maritime Policy of the European Union. Your input is necessary for the sustainable growth in coastal regions and maritime sectors. We would therefore like to further intensify the dialogue with and between stakeholders of the Integrated Maritime Policy.

We are pleased to invite you to contribute once again to the programme of the European Maritime Day Stakeholder conference, which in 2010 will be held in Gijón, on the Atlantic Coast of Spain³. This event is part of the official calendar of the upcoming Spanish Presidency of the European Union. It will be held at the magnificent City of Culture Laboral⁴. This location and the adjacent cultural centre offer generous space for extended indoor and outdoor exhibitions as well as various sizes of workshops and meetings organised by you as stakeholders of the Integrated Maritime Policy.

¹ European Maritime Day is an annual maritime stakeholder event set out in the Joint Tripartite Declaration on Maritime Day signed by Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the European Commission:

http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/pdf/maritime_policy_action/20080520_original-signatures-declaratio_en.pdf

² Reports, pictures and videos from the European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference in Rome are available under: http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index_en.html#1

³ <http://www.gijon.es/default.aspx?leng=en>

⁴ <http://www.laboralciudaddelacultura.com/es>

The main theme of the conference will be "Innovation", an inspiring principle of the Spanish Presidency. We will thus be able to look at how we foster innovation in policy making for competitiveness, environmental protection, better working conditions and employment as well as for excellence in science and research.

Like in 2009, in 2010 stakeholders can contribute through two types of activities at any location across Europe or to the stakeholder conference in Gijón:

a) Maritime events at Member State, regional and local level

Your events at any location of Europe may target professionals, civil society, the general public and/or the media. The choice of the subject related to the seas and coasts is up to you, and the event may have any form, such as conferences, workshops, debates, exhibitions, study or press visits highlighting maritime projects and activities, open days at ports, harbours, museums and aquaria, environmental actions, university or school projects.

The European Commission can support the recognised European Maritime Day events in the following manner:

- providing information on your organisation and your event through the European Maritime Day website with the creation of appropriate links to your webpages;
- involving the European Commission Representations in relevant Member States in disseminating information on the European Maritime Day events;
- including information about your event and organisation in the final programme, to be distributed *inter alia* to the European Maritime Day conference participants;
- providing organisers (at their request) with information and promotional material pertaining to the Integrated Maritime Policy and European Maritime Day.

b) Stakeholders may organise workshops, exhibitions and set up stands at the European Maritime Day Stakeholders Conference from 19 to 21 May 2010 in Gijón, Spain

Workshops and exhibitions/stands can be organised by interested stakeholders in line with the theme of the conference. The City of Culture Laboral and the adjacent cultural centre offer numerous spaces for this purpose. Self-organised stakeholder events, being an integral part of the programme, can take place from 19 to 21 May. The hosting country Spain will provide the necessary logistical support (i.e. equipped conference rooms and facilities, logistics support on location and catering).

Stakeholders are invited to document their self-organised events in such a manner as to allow for the inclusion of the documentation on the website and in the printed proceedings of Maritime Day 2010. The Commission will provide a format for this purpose.

In order to draw up the programme of the conference well in advance we invite you to send your ideas and proposals ;more specifically, if you wish your activity to be recognised and supported as an European Maritime Day 2010 event, or if you wish to organise a workshop or

an exhibition in Gijón, please submit information about the planned event, using the enclosed form⁵, and return it to the following address: Mare-European-Maritime-Day@ec.europa.eu no later than 30 September 2009.

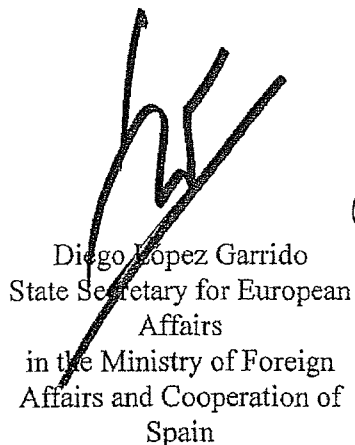
It is our intention to finalise the programme for the European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference 2010 in Gijón by 1 December 2009.

Please put 20 May in your diary and disseminate this letter further within your networks! We look forward to celebrating together European Maritime Day in 2010 in Gijón – as in Rome – with key players from politics, civil society, business and the sciences.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Borg
Member of the European
Commission responsible for
Maritime Affairs and
Fisheries



Diego López Garrido
State Secretary for European
Affairs
in the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs and Cooperation of
Spain



Vicente Álvarez Areces
President of the
Government
of the Principality of
Asturias

⁵ Forms are also available online at the European Maritime Day website (<http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeday>)

EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY 2010
MARITIME EVENTS ACROSS EUROPE
(AT MEMBER STATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL)

TEMPLATE FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

Name of event organiser(s)	
Event contact person (name, e-mail, telephone, fax)	
Press contact person (name, e-mail, telephone, fax)	
Title of event	
Short programme description (including event objectives, max 300 characters)	
Target audience (type of audience and estimated number of participants, max 300 characters)	
Date (event should be held close in time to the European Maritime Day, i.e. around 20 May 2010)	
Location	
Cooperation with the Commission (please indicate what kind of support you require)	<input type="checkbox"/> speaker (indicate the subject)
	<input type="checkbox"/> visibility (publish information on the event on the European Maritime Day website)
	<input type="checkbox"/> visibility (publish information on the event in the European Maritime Day conference programme)
	<input type="checkbox"/> information and promotional material (separate order form will be sent to you)
	<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify)
Comments	

Please return this form to the following address no later than 30 September 2009:

Mare-European-Maritime-Day@ec.europa.eu

You will receive feedback from the Commission within 15 days of submitting your proposal.

Please note that the event organisers are expected to send short reports from their events to be published on the European Maritime Day website. Further guidelines will be provided.

EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY 2010
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO ORGANISE EVENTS ALONGSIDE
THE EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE IN GIJÓN
19-21 MAY 2010

TEMPLATE FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

Name of event organiser(s)	
Event contact person (name, e-mail, telephone, fax)	
Press contact person (name, e-mail, telephone, fax)	
Title of event	
Type of event	<input type="checkbox"/> workshop <input type="checkbox"/> stand <input type="checkbox"/> exhibition (outdoor/indoor) Comments:
Short programme description (including event objectives, max 300 characters)	
Language of the event	
Target audience (type of audience and estimated number of participants, max 300 characters)	
Date and timing (Please indicate preferred date(s) and time slot(s). Note: events can take more than a single time slot, you do not have to fill the whole time slot either. Please indicate the foreseen length of the event in the "Comments" line)	19 MAY <input type="checkbox"/> MORNING <input type="checkbox"/> AFTERNOON
	20 MAY <input type="checkbox"/> MORNING <input type="checkbox"/> AFTERNOON
	21 MAY <input type="checkbox"/> MORNING <input type="checkbox"/> AFTERNOON
	Comments:
For exhibitions/stands: (please indicate the number of square meters of exhibition space requested and information whether the space is needed inside or outside the conference building)	
Comments	

Please return this form to the following address no later than **30 September 2009**:

Mare-European-Maritime-Day@ec.europa.eu

You will receive feedback from the Commission within 15 days of submitting your proposal.

Important notice:

The possibility to hold your event alongside European Maritime Day conference in Gijón (19-21 May) is subject to availability of facilities and a qualitative assessment of the proposal by the hosts of the conference. The main assessment criterion is how far the proposed event can contribute to the goals of the Integrated Maritime Policy.

Please note that registration to your event will be carried out through a central conference registration form to be set up by the European Commission. Event organisers are expected to send short reports from their events to be published on the European Maritime Day website. Further guidelines will be provided.