



CPMR Working Group “Aquamarina”
First meeting: 26 March 2008
Committee of the Regions (Room no 70) - Brussels



(Updated 13/03/2008)

Expected schedule for the Action Plan and actions initiated by the Commission

This schedule only includes the actions for which a timetable has been fixed. It will be updated in line with developments within this policy area.

Planned measures under the Action Plan	Actions initiated by the Commission
2007	
Working document on maritime clusters	Publication of the Commission's working document on maritime clusters on 17 October.
Launch of the consultation on the European maritime space	Consultation on “European maritime transport space without barriers” (limited to the problems of tax and customs barriers) launched in October 2007. The consultation closed on 21 January 2008
Communication on exemptions from social legislation for maritime professions	Communication of 10 October 2007 on “Reassessing the regulatory social framework for more and better seafaring jobs in the EU”. This communication gave rise to a European consultation among social partners which closed at the end of November 2007.
Communication on ports policy	Communication of 18 October 2007 on a European ports policy. The Commission points out the main initiatives in this communication.
Guidelines on applying environmental legislation to ports	Conference in the spring of 2008. Publication of the guidelines at the end of 2008.
Working document on Motorways of the Sea	Document that outlines the state of play for motorways of the seas, and launch of a consultation on how to boost them in October 2007. The consultation in the form of an on-line questionnaire closed on 21 January 2008. A European coordinator was appointed and due to submit his report in March 2008.
Regulation on destructive fishing practices on the high seas by European vessels.	Communication on illegal fishing (known as IUU fishing) and proposed regulation. Communication also on destructive fishing practices on the high seas and on the protection of marine ecosystems (accompanied by a proposed regulation on the protection of fragile deep water ecosystems on the high seas against the damaging effects of bottom trawling).
Communication on sustainable tourism	Publication on 19 October 2007 of an “Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism”. This document addresses tourism in general and defines the EU's action framework. A paragraph focuses on maritime tourism. The Commission indicates in this document that as a first step, it will focus its attention on the coastal tourism sector by assessing the impacts

Planned measures under the Action Plan	Actions initiated by the Commission
	of fast growing segments such as cruise tourism, and the effects of issues concerning competition between land and maritime uses in coastal environments.
Working documents on the present status of maritime surveillance systems and practices	The Commission has published a communication on the creation of a European Border Surveillance System. In particular, phase 1 of the system aims to interlink the different surveillance systems and mechanisms, including maritime ones.
Legislative framework to authorise CO ₂ sequestering at sea.	-
Proclamation of a European maritime day and associated events (Awards, etc).	Joint tripartite declaration (Parliament, Council and Commission) establishing a European maritime day. It will be organised on 20 May each year and will give rise to awareness-raising activities and the creation of networks.
-	Working document on ensuring a better fit between EU energy policy and maritime policy.
2008	
FIRST HALF	
Guidelines for integrated maritime policies of Member States	Currently being drafted by the Task Force
Report on regulatory barriers	-
Conference on the European maritime transport strategy	Launch of a forward study in January 2008 to be carried out by a group of commissioned European consultants. Conference in June or July 2008.
Communication on ship dismantling	-
SECOND HALF	
Work plan for integrating maritime surveillance systems within a single network	-
Programme for developing a system for the multidimensional mapping of Member States' waters	-
Proposal on the European maritime space	-
White Paper on EU maritime transport strategy	Communication due to be published in October 2008
Guidelines on exemptions from competition legislation for certain maritime conferences	-
Database on European funding likely to be used for maritime projects in the Regions.	-
DURING THE YEAR	
Network of exchanges of good practices (all fields)	-
Roadmap on spatial planning at sea	Under preparation, planned for June 2008
Analysis of options required for spatial planning at sea	-
Roadmap on the observation and data network	A call for expertise has been launched to constitute a group of experts to assist the Commission.
Directive on the application of the maritime labour convention to EU vessels	Text in the process of being finalised. Expected in the autumn 2008
Report on the application of Directive 93/103 on health and safety in the fishing industry	-
Working document on fishermen "Guardians of the sea"	-
Communication on the eco-system approach in the CFP	-
Strategy in the field of European maritime research	A policy paper is currently being prepared. It looks likely to be published in September 2008.
Strategy for disaster prevention	-
Strategy on climate change	-
Evaluation of the EU situation within international circles	-
Including maritime affairs in the dialogue with third countries, including developing countries	-
Report on strategic issues for the EU in relation to the Arctic Ocean	-

Planned measures under the Action Plan	Actions initiated by the Commission
2009	
Report on Member States' maritime policies	-
System of exchanges of good practices in activities led by Member States in the field of maritime spatial planning	-
Action plan for the observation and data network	-
Document on deploying e-maritime	-
Raft of actions on jobs in the maritime sector	-
Action plan for introducing a certificate of maritime excellence	-
Analysis of links between cruising, ports, marinas and other maritime industries	-
Working document and database on the social and economic aspects within the maritime sector	-
Strategy for the protection of biodiversity on the high seas through the designation of protected marine areas	-
Publication of the first edition of the European Atlas of the Seas	-