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## PRESS RELEASE

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<h3>CPMR TO ACT AS THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S MARITIME INTERGROUP</h3>
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Over the next few years, **the European Parliament's Intergroup on Seas and Coastal Affairs** will deal with issues such as marine biodiversity, the creation of a European coast guard, the development of ocean power, the processing of marine waste, maritime transport and climate change.

Within the Intergroup, several MEPs of different nationalities and representing various political groups will coordinate their work within Parliament, not just on topics currently on the EU agenda, but also on issues that the Intergroup deems to be a priority.

*"The objective is to have a greater influence on the Council and the Commission,"* declared the Chair of the Intergroup, Corine Lepage (ALDE, FR). For this reason, she announced that one of the Intergroup's first events will entail a meeting with the Commissioner-designate for maritime affairs, Maria Damanaki.

The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), represented by Ms Carol Thomas, will deal with the logistical aspects of the secretariat in coordination with Ms Lepage's office.

The first meeting of the Intergroup will take place during the next plenary session from 8 to 11 February in Strasbourg.

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