



UN GLOBAL COMPACT – COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT STATEMENT OF ONGOING COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT

Period covered: September 2019 – September 2021

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I am pleased to confirm the Global Maritime Forum's continued support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption in our policies and procedures.

The Global Maritime Forum was founded on the idea that great change and progress is possible when all actors across the value chain take a seat at the table. Over the last two years, the maritime industry and our society have both seen waves of change in many areas – from public and private actors taking steps toward combatting climate change, to working to advance shared standards for labour conditions amidst a global pandemic. Over the last two years, the Global Maritime Forum has been a key player in convening and exploring these discussions, as we continue to drive industry and cross-sector collaboration to shape the future of the seaborne trade. We are proud that our mission and ongoing activities in these areas continue to support the work of the UN Global Compact, and we pledge to continue to work with our partnerships across maritime stakeholders to increase long-term sustainable development and human wellbeing.

We recognize that we have significant influence on how businesses advance human rights, the environment, and labour standards. With this communication, we describe the ongoing actions of our organization which support the UN Global Compact and its Principles, and the measurement of related outcomes.

We support this element of public accountability which promotes transparency and disclosure, and we look forward to reporting on our progress two years from now.

Sincerely yours,

Johannah Christensen
Chief Executive Officer
Global Maritime Forum



REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

The Global Maritime Forum is an international not-for-profit organization committed to shaping the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing.

To serve our mission, we facilitate a wide variety of initiatives and convene key stakeholders at the Annual Summit. The following report on activities summarizes the last two years of activities which support the UNGC, and our involvement in the Danish local network. While this document does not include every activity or outcome, it provides a high-level summary of our engagements and progress across our different initiatives, as we work with stakeholders across the shipping industry and value chain.

HUMAN RIGHTS & LABOUR

The Neptune Declaration was launched in late January 2021 and developed to address the crew-change crisis by identifying four main action areas: recognize seafarers as key workers and give them priority access to COVID-19 vaccines, establish and implement gold standard health protocols based on existing best practice, increase collaboration between ship operators and charterers to facilitate crew changes, and ensure airline connectivity between key maritime hubs for seafarers.

It was drafted by the Maritime Industry Crew-Change Taskforce, bringing together representatives of companies from across the maritime value chain and organizations. The objectives of the Declaration are to raise awareness about the on-going crew change crisis, build momentum around the concrete actions to address the situation and demonstrate the willingness of leading stakeholders in the maritime industry and beyond to work together to address the situation.

The number of signatories, 300 at launch, has since risen to over 800. There have also been several initiatives developed through the Declaration. For instance, we publish a [monthly indicator](#) that provides the percentage of seafarers onboard vessels beyond the expiry of their contracts and onboard beyond eleven months.

An inclusion and diversity cross-industrial working group of 14 industry collaborators has been established focusing on following discussions at the Global Maritime Forum's Virtual High-Level Meeting in October 2020. The work of the group is founded on the conviction that the future success of the industry is dependent on its ability to attract and maintain inclusive and diverse talent both in land-based organizations and at sea. Attracting top talent requires both workplaces that are attractive for a new and more diverse talent pool and increased visibility of the industry by potential employees, however, several studies have concluded that the maritime industry is perceived as a laggard in meeting the opportunities and benefits of inclusion and diversity.

The aim of the group is to catalyze action that can contribute to driving change across the industry. This will be achieved by identifying and discussing the challenges of creating an inclusive and diverse industry, explore potential actions drawing on best practices from the maritime industry as well as other industries, and by raising awareness of the subject to encourage the engagement. The goal is to make diversity and inclusion the norm of the global maritime industry, ensuring that all talent irrespective of background has access to equal possibilities.



THE ENVIRONMENT

The Getting to Zero Coalition is a partnership between the Global Maritime Forum, World Economic Forum and Friends of Ocean Action, whose ambition is to have commercially viable zero emission vessels (ZEVs) operating along deep-sea trade routes by 2030. To support this ambition, it has to be supported by the necessary infrastructure for scalable zero-carbon energy sources including production, distribution, storage and bunkering, to reach the IMO's ambition to reduce GHG emissions from shipping by at least 50% by 2050 and to make the transition to full decarbonization possible. Achieving this ambition requires commitment, perseverance, innovation, and cross-industry collaboration as well as the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders from across the maritime ecosystem.

Since the Coalition's launch at the UN's Climate Action Summit in New York, 2019, the Coalition has grown substantially in reach and impact. Today, the Coalition numbers around 180 stakeholders from across the maritime value chain, including shipping companies, energy companies/providers, financial institutes, ports, academia, various NGOs, and governments, covering key geographies around the world. During the past two years, the Coalition has worked to raise awareness, build knowledge, and gradually change the narrative around shipping decarbonization in line with its [ambition statement](#), [project outline](#) and [industry roadmap](#).

The Coalition has created a shared knowledge base via its many reports and analytical pieces, providing important input on the way to zero emission shipping. These include, among other, a blueprint report for commercial-scale zero-emission vessel pilots ([link](#)); two mapping reports of zero emission pilots and demonstration projects ([link](#) to latest report); a study outlining the quantifiable target that will allow zero emission fuels to become commercially viable ([link](#)) and two technical reports produced by the Coalition's knowledge partner the World Bank to inform the energy transition of shipping and support the sector's climate action ([link](#) to summary). The Coalition has raised awareness and facilitated knowledge sharing via its webinars, workshops, and roundtables, but also via participation in key external events, influencing the industry agenda to firmly place shipping's decarbonization as a top concern for the sector.

Mission Innovation launched a *Zero Emission Shipping Mission* ([link](#)), following a long engagement process with the Global Maritime Forum for the Getting to Zero Coalition, which will develop, demonstrate, and deploy zero-emission fuels, ships, and fuel infrastructure by 2030 and make zero-emission ocean going shipping the natural choice for ship owners. These activities are supported by our ongoing work with the *Poseidon Principles* ([link](#)) and *Sea Cargo Charter* ([link](#)), which promote transparency and disclose climate alignment in order to support responsible lending and chartering activities.

While it is difficult to measure and demonstrate causality, we are confident that the Coalition and our decarbonization activities have played an instrumental role in changing narratives in the sector during the past two years. As an example, while carbon pricing was highly controversial in the maritime space only a few years ago, the current debate has largely accepted that it is a necessary development. Additionally, the Coalition's mapping exercise points to an increase of pilots and demonstrations over one year, and is another indication that change is happening. Key leaders have consequently recognized the role of the Coalition, where the UN Secretary-General mentioned the launch of the Getting to Zero Coalition in his speech "The State of the Planet" in December 2020 ([link here](#)), and the Coalition was recognized as the Mission Possible Platform's



shipping decarbonization initiative at the Davos Agenda 2021 (link [here](#)). We look forward to continuing this important work and expressing our support for the UNGC.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

The Global Maritime Forum states its position against corruption in any form through our compliance policies. Our work environment is transparent, and we are clear when working with partners that we do not get involved in activities that could be related to bribery, corruption, or unethical behavior. Our employees, members of the Board of Directors and Advisory Council are all aware of our policy in relation to this topic.

We will continue to promote transparency and anti-corruption in our work and activities.