



Maritime decision-makers are taking the lead to shape the future of global seaborne trade

Public and private leaders from around the world have convened for the Global Maritime Forum's Annual Summit to develop concrete solutions to the most important challenges facing the maritime industry. Cross-industry and multi-stakeholder collaboration, as well as bold thought-leadership will be key drivers for positive change that will benefit not only individual organizations and the industry, but society as a whole.

Singapore, 31 October 2019; Decarbonization has been at the center of the discussions over the past two days at the Global Maritime Forum's second Annual Summit in Singapore, where leaders from the entire maritime spectrum have gathered. Difficult questions around zero emission fuels, the role of the financial sector, the question of a carbon levy, and the need to make decarbonization the most competitive option for the future have been core to the discussions.

"To meet international shipping's decarbonization challenge, the maritime industry needs a carbon levy, it is coming, and we should shape it. We have an opportunity to shape a new maritime future, create a new business opportunity and drive innovation. A maritime green fund could accelerate decarbonization in shipping, support scaling and infrastructure to deliver new fuels, while taking into consideration the impact on trade and developing states," said **Andreas Sohlen-Pao, Chairman, BW Group.**

The main contribution of the maritime industry to society is to support global trade, thereby providing economic growth, jobs and access to food and fuels for people all over the world. This is a key focus of the maritime industry, and there is potential to further improve efficiency and reduce waste through collaboration and data sharing.

"We need to digitalize global supply chains to incentivize collaboration in supply chains at sea and on land through digitalization to create efficiency and unlock added economic value. There is an opportunity for broad collaboration and a common language around digital standards and data governance," said **Michael J. White, Head of TradeLens and Chief Executive Officer Maersk GTD, Tradelens.**

Improving safety is a top priority of the maritime industry. The safety record of other industries shows that improvements in safety performance are still possible. It will take leadership, collective responsibility and collaboration across the industry to get there.

"Three areas are key to improve the maritime industry's safety performance. Safety should be the top priority in board rooms; we must improve the well-being of seafarers; and we need to have a common industrywide data base for danger reporting to better understand what is behind incidents. It is our industry, it is our people, and it is our responsibility," said **Grahaeme Henderson, Vice President Shipping and Maritime, Shell.**

The maritime industry is a people industry that can only be successful if it is able to attract the right talent. Therefore, attracting people with a diverse set of skills and perspectives to ensure the future success of the industry has been an important topic at the summit.

"To attract the seafarers of the future, we need to see the maritime industry from the perspective of the young and to create awareness and excitement about a maritime career. Young people need to see a clear career path at sea and back to shore," said **Caroline Yang, President, Singapore Shipping Association.**

The new ideas for action that have been generated at the Global Maritime Forum's Annual Summit will now be further developed to shape the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing.

The Global Maritime Forum will publish an in-depth report for the Annual Summit later this year.



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About the Global Maritime Forum

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 its mission, the Forum convenes leaders from across the maritime community with policymakers, NGOs, experts, and other influential decision-makers and opinion shapers from all geographies in a community of purpose to discuss collective challenges and to work together on developing new solutions and recommendations for action. In order to do so, the Forum identifies, develops and shares new insights and key issues on the global agenda and facilitates collaborative projects and initiatives that can deliver long-term impact and sustainable change.