



Global Maritime Forum announces new chairman and three new members of the Board of Directors

Jan Dieleman is elected as new Chairman of the Global Maritime Forum at its annual general meeting on 26 April 2022. Lynn Loo, Semiramis Paliou and Rajesh Unni join the Board of Directors. Peter Stokes steps down after five years at the helm, having been Chairman of the Global Maritime Forum since its establishment in 2017.

Copenhagen, 26 April 2022 - International not-for-profit organisation Global Maritime Forum announces the new composition of its Board of Directors, following today's annual general meeting. Jan Dieleman, President, Ocean Transportation at Cargill was elected as new Chairman of the Board of Directors, taking over the position from Peter Stokes, former Senior Adviser and Head of Shipping at Lazard, who is retiring.

"I am honored to accept the role as Chairman of the Global Maritime Forum. Peter has made great strides in helping the forum become an impactful organization that not only drives change but addresses the key challenges we face as an industry today," said **Jan Dieleman, newly announced chair of the Global Maritime Forum**. *"Together with my fellow directors and the Global Maritime Forums leadership, we will build on this momentum and further strengthen our role as a platform for collaboration ensuring the industry and its stakeholders to work together to discuss challenges and find lasting solutions."*

Peter Stokes has served on the Global Maritime Forum's Board of Directors since 2017, when the organization was established.

"I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Peter for his support and guidance during these first five years of growth and development of the Global Maritime Forum. Right from the outset, Peter has shared our profound belief in collaboration across the industry and collective action as the key to long-term impact and sustainable change. Peter has been a steady hand and a source of sage advice throughout his time as Chairman," said **Johannah Christensen, Chief Executive Officer of the Global Maritime Forum**. *"I look forward to working with Jan and the entire Board of Directors on our shared vision for the future of the sector."*

Lynn Loo, Chief Executive Officer of the Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation, Semiramis Paliou, Chief Executive Officer of Diana Shipping, and Captain Rajesh Unni, founder and Chief Executive Officer of Synergy Group were also elected as new members of the Board of Directors of the Global Maritime Forum.

"I am pleased that Lynn, Semiramis and Unni have accepted to join the Board of Directors. They each bring unique and important perspectives as well as a deep understanding and appreciation for the collective challenges we face as an industry, thus contributing to the Global Maritime Forum's ability to bring positive change for our community, the industry and society," said **Jan Dieleman**.

Hereafter, the Board of Directors consists of:

Jan Dieleman (Chairman), Randy Chen (Vice Chairman), Anthony S. Papadimitriou, Christine Loh, Claus V. Hemmingsen, Lynn Loo, Michael Parker, Oivind Lorentzen III, Rajesh Unni, and Semiramis Paliou.

More information about the members of the Board of Directors is available [here](#).

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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. 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.

Further quotes from the newly appointed members of the Board of Directors:

"The Global Maritime Forum represents a truly international and diverse group of people and entities across the entire maritime industry willing to work together for the common purpose of promoting sustainable development in the industry. It is an honor and privilege for me to be part of this effort," said **Semiramis Paliou, Chief Executive Officer, Diana Shipping.**

"I am honored to be invited to the Board of the Global Maritime Forum. The maritime value chain is highly complex and when you overlay the challenges of decarbonising the sector, it is clear that stakeholder collaboration across the ecosystem is vital in helping the shipping industry eliminate its GHG emissions. The Global Maritime Forum and Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation (GCMD) are aligned in our mission to help this industry decarbonise. I hope to bring GCMD's domain and technical expertise together with the Global Maritime Forum's broad-based community and platform to encourage and drive global industry dialogue as well as spur action towards developing and deploying solutions for decarbonisation," said **Lynn Loo, Chief Executive Officer, Global Centre for Maritime Decarbonisation.**

"The Global Maritime Forum has proven its commitment to decarbonisation and seafarer rights time and again, and I welcome the Board's recognition in my appointment that ship managers can offer unique value, perspective, and insight on these issues. The Global Maritime Forum was founded on the principles of transparency and accountability. In my view these are exactly the core qualities that the maritime industry must place in front and center as it tackles the formidable challenges ahead. As we seek solutions, cross-industry collaboration will be critical to our success. Equally as vital will be our ability to transparently demonstrate progress to customers and regulators," said **Captain Rajesh Unni, founder and Chief Executive Officer, Synergy Group.**