



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate D - Waterborne
D.1 - Maritime transport & logistics

Brussels,
MOVE D1/AZ (2017)

Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE)

Subject: Request for Participation as an Observer at the European Sustainable Shipping Forum (Plenary)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you very much for your letter of 6 April 2017, and your interest in the work of the European Sustainable Shipping Forum (ESSF).

As stipulated in Article 5 of the Commission Decision of 24 September 2013 on setting-up the group of experts on maritime transport sustainability - the European Sustainable Shipping Forum, *'the Commission's representative may give observer status to international organisations and other bodies engaged in, or with a direct interest in maritime transport sustainability, as well as to European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and candidate countries'*.

Taking into account the above mentioned rules, as well as all the arguments presented in your letter, I am glad to invite Mr [REDACTED], Vice-president of GLE, to participate as observer in the ESSF Plenary meetings. Mr [REDACTED]'s work experience, as presented in the curriculum vitae attached to your request, is fully adequate to the discussions in the Forum. We also acknowledge that in special cases, he may be replaced by Mr [REDACTED] at the ESSF Plenary meetings.

The next ESSF Plenary meeting is tentatively planned for 16 October 2017 in Lisbon, Portugal (postponed from 29 June). Documents for the ESSF meetings are usually available on the Public Register of Commission Expert Groups¹ and are distributed before each Plenary meeting to the mailing list of members and observers to the ESSF Plenary.

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=2869>

Rules concerning observers to the Commission expert groups are laid by art. 16 of the Commission Decision C(2016) 3301 *establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups*². Please note that according to these rules, observers and their representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions and provide expertise, however, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the expert group or sub-group.

For further information please contact Ms [REDACTED], telephone [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], e-mail: [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

CC:

Ms [REDACTED] (MOVE Dir. D)
Mr [REDACTED] (MOVE)
Mr [REDACTED] (EMSA),
Mr [REDACTED] (HoU C.3 ENV)
Ms [REDACTED] (MOVE D.1)
Ms [REDACTED] (HoU MOVE D.1)

² Commission Decision C(2016) 3301

http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/PDF/C_2016_3301_F1_COMMISSION_DECISION_PLUS_A_NNEXES_EN.pdf