



United Nations
**Sustainable
Transport
Conference**

14-16
OCTOBER
2021
Beijing



Side
Event

Route to COP26: Accelerating Business Action for Decarbonizing Shipping and Social Responsibility

13 October | 8 am EDT | Online

United Nations Global Compact | UNFCCC Marrakesh Partnership | UN DESA

Maritime transport plays a crucial role enabling international trade and facilitating economic development globally. Maritime trade and seaports are livelihoods for many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Although it is one of the most energy efficient modes of transport, shipping accounts for approximately 3 per cent of global GHG emissions ([IMO, 2020](#)) and emits around 15 per cent of some of the world's major air pollutants annually. Technological advancements to decarbonize marine transport are progressing but must be brought to scale, in turn, ensuring connectivity and supporting economic growth.

To meet the Paris Agreement's 1.5 °C target, it is essential that the international shipping industry aims to decarbonize by 2050. There is urgent need to rally support for the 1.5 target in the shipping community - both in terms of business actions towards rapid decarbonization and the alignment of IMO Member States with the 1.5 target. The business community is calling for urgent and ambitious policy action. By 2030, we must reach at least 5% zero emission fuels in international shipping and have commercially viable zero emission vessels operating along deep-sea trade routes, supported by the necessary infrastructure for scalable zero emission fuels and energy sources. Achieving this will require political action at all levels and public - private partnerships. The private sector is leading the way through investing in R&D, pilot projects, assessing and disclosing climate alignment for example and [now is calling for national and international regulators to establish policy frameworks](#) to rapidly scale and make zero emission shipping commercially viable, investable, equitable and inclusive.

As outlined in the UN Global Compact brief '[Charting a 1.5 C trajectory for Maritime Transport](#)', the transition to a zero-emission maritime industry by 2050 must also be safe, just and equitable, in a way that maximises job opportunities – particularly in developing countries - and minimizes and protects job losses in declining industries. At the same time, human rights in the sector have been pushed into the spotlight with the conditions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic preventing crew changes and stranding hundreds of thousands of seafarers. The United Nations Global Compact developed a Human Rights Due Diligence tool to provide guidance to cargo owners and charterers to address adverse human rights impacts on seafarers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This session will elaborate on how companies can secure a green and decent shipping industry. While cargo owners can adopt a human rights and environmental due diligence framework – demanding green, human-centered shipping conditions from their suppliers and freight forwarders, the finance industry too has a key role to play.



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Agenda

(Please kindly note this is a draft agenda and subject to change)

Introductory Remarks (10 mins)

Introduced by Ms. Martha Selwyn, UN Global Compact

- Mr. Sturla Henriksen, Special Advisor, Ocean, UN Global Compact
- Ms. Katharine Palmer, Shipping Lead, UNFCCC High Level Climate Champions

Panel Discussion (45 mins)

Moderator: Ingrid Irigoyen, Associate Director, Ocean and Climate, Aspen Institute Energy and Environment Program

- Mr. Stephen Cotton, General Secretary, International Transport Workers' Federation
- Ms. Michelle Grose, Vice President, Global Logistics, Unilever
- Mr. Peter Jonathan Jameson, Partner, BCG
- Mr. Abhishek Pandey, Global Head of Shipping Finance, Standard Chartered
- Ms. Elizabeth Munck af Rosenschöld, Global Sustainability Manager, IKEA Supply A