The Getting to Zero Coalition identifies four focus areas to advance roadmap on shipping’s decarbonization

Today, 100 members of the Getting to Zero Coalition convened in Copenhagen for its first biannual working session. The immediate work of the Coalition will focus on delivering action through four workstreams.

Copenhagen, 25 February 2020: Commercially viable zero emission vessels need to operate along deep sea trade routes by 2030 to meet decarbonization targets. This is the ambition of the Getting to Zero Coalition that was announced at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York last September. The ambition is closely aligned with the UN International Maritime Organization’s Initial GHG Strategy: to reduce the total annual greenhouse gas emissions from international shipping by at least 50% of 2008 levels by 2050, whilst pursuing efforts towards phasing them out as soon as possible in this century.

More than 120 public and private organizations have joined the Getting to Zero Coalition since it was announced, and the Coalition has been endorsed by Governments in 14 countries. Today, 100 Coalition members gathered in Copenhagen, for the first time, to advance a work-plan for the coming 2 years.

“We are encouraged by the leadership and optimism that was evident at today’s working session. Members of the Getting to Zero Coalition have a genuine and shared desire to meet our ambitious targets in the agreed timeline. I’m excited that we now have four practical workstreams through which we can advance the work of the Coalition,” says Johannah Christensen, Managing Director, Head of Projects & Programmes at the Global Maritime Forum.

Each of the four workstreams of the Getting to Zero Coalition will have its own series of working sessions and outputs. They are designed to:

Explore fuels, technologies & transition pathways, by narrowing technology and fuel options as well as mapping out safety implications, guidelines and required regulations for scaling up new fuels.

Motivate first movers to kickstart shipping’s zero emission future, by exploring policies, demand drivers and funding mechanisms to motivate and de-risk first mover investments.

Close the competitiveness gap for zero emission shipping, by exploring policy instruments and market-based measures to close the competitiveness gap between conventional and zero emission fuels and associated infrastructure to encourage mass uptake.

Explore global opportunities for zero emission fuels exports, by mapping countries with the potential to generate and export zero emission fuels.

“I am struck by the level of engagement from every part of the maritime value chain – and beyond – represented here today. Maritime is one of the so called hard to abate industrial sectors and the sector has chosen to see that as a challenge to take action rather than an excuse to do nothing. The commitment to put net zero carbon ships in the water by 2030 shows true leadership in the response to the climate emergency,” says Anthony Hobley, Executive Director, Mission Possible Platform, World Economic Forum.

“The Getting to Zero Coalition is a shining example of how business can and must collectively collaborate to raise the level of ambition and increase the pace for the transition to a low carbon economy. This is good for people, planet, ocean and economies,” says Kristian Teleki, Director, Friends of Ocean Action.

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About the Getting to Zero Coalition

The Getting to Zero Coalition is an industry-led platform for collaboration that brings together leading stakeholders from across the maritime and fuels value chains with the financial sector and other committed to making commercially viable zero emission vessels a scalable reality by 2030. The Getting to Zero Coalition is a partnership between the Global Maritime Forum, the Friends of Ocean Action, and the World Economic Forum.