Braving rough seas

Times are changing. This seems to be the only clear conclusion from the dramatic events that have been unfolding over the past 24 months: a global pandemic, the largest war in Europe since 1945, rising temperatures caused by climate change, severely disrupted supply chains. Though the long-term impact of these events on the world, the maritime industry, and the lives of people is unknown, it is likely to be significant. It also raises fundamental questions:

- Is the maritime industry on a path towards a more fragmented world, in which finding global solutions to global problems will be impossible? Or is the maritime industry on the cusp of a new international order that will better reflect the current world demographics and economic realities?

- Will the renewed focus on energy security in light of the war in Ukraine lead to a doubling down on fossil fuels or will it accelerate the clean energy transition?

- Could persistent supply chain problems lead to a fundamental shift in trading patterns and ultimately undermine economic globalization or can resiliency be enhanced while preserving the benefits of global trade?

- Is the great resignation during COVID-19 a harbinger of a global talent crisis or will employers find ways of responding to changing values and aspirations to build the skilled and diverse workforce of the future?

The answers to these questions and their impact on the maritime industry are not given. They will depend on the actions taken by leaders, both individually and collectively.

The Global Maritime Forum’s Annual Summit will bring together top decision makers, thought leaders, and experts from across the maritime spectrum and beyond, to make sense of our rapidly changing world and what it means for the maritime industry. We will also work collectively to identify ways in which maritime stakeholders can take action to create the future we want and need.

Join us in September 2022 to shape the future of global seaborne trade

“We are living in turbulent times with geopolitical conflicts, the continued impact of COVID-19, disruptions to supply chains, and an urgent need to accelerate the energy transition. Now more than ever, we need to come together as decision makers from across the global maritime spectrum and beyond to address these vital challenges facing the industry. I look forward to welcoming leaders from the entire value chain to New York in September to partake in the Global Maritime Forum Annual Summit.”

Jan Dieleman
President, Cargill Ocean Transportation and Chair of the Global Maritime Forum

In August 2021, **1200 seafarers had been confined on board ships for more than 11 months** due to the crew change crisis.

15% of the world’s seafarers are Russian or Ukrainian.
The global maritime industry is the lifeblood of global trade ensuring access to energy, food, and goods all around the globe. But the events over the past 24 months have shown us how fragile global supply chains are in times of political, environmental, technological, and economic upheaval. We need to learn from these events and find ways of creating a more resilient seaborne trading system together, where the safety of personnel, including seafarers, is consistently put first and companies can thrive while serving both people and the planet.”

Dr. Ricaurte Vásquez Morales
Administrator, Panama Canal Authority

International trade made possible by maritime transport has been a critical driver for global growth and development over the last fifty years. But geopolitical conflict, a global pandemic, infrastructure and labor shortfalls, and changing trade patterns have revealed significant weaknesses in global supply chains, with grave consequences for the global economy and the lives of citizens around the world.

This has led to questions on the sustainability of the globalized economic model relying on a highly efficient transport and logistics network. To increase resilience, some are calling for a reshoring of manufacturing, more vertical integration of supply chains as well as a diversification of suppliers.

The war in Ukraine has underlined that access to food and energy is not only an economic necessity – it is also a security imperative. Geopolitical conflict, war, and sanctions are directly impacting the trade of energy commodities and could lead to widespread hunger and political instability. Both in the shorter and longer term, countries will seek to balance the need for energy security with the need to decarbonize.

To overcome these challenges, we need to improve the efficiency and the resiliency of global seaborne trade. What will be needed to unlock new ways of collaborating in a fragmented industry?

**KEY QUESTIONS:**

- What has the maritime industry learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and the current supply chain disruptions that it can use to build more resilient and robust supply chains and thus safeguard the benefits of global trade?
- What role can the maritime industry play in ensuring access to food and energy in developing countries, which are likely to be impacted the most by the ongoing trade disruptions?
- How can the maritime industry unlock the potential of digitalization and data sharing to increase resilience and efficiency in global supply chains?
ISSUES ON THE AGENDA

Decarbonizing shipping

Greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors need to peak by 2025, reaching net-zero by the middle of this century. Shipping must and can play its part in this transition and leaders from across the sector have clearly stated that they support this goal.

But how will the maritime industry move from high ambitions to action, and make ordering zero emission ships the default choice within this decade?

Decarbonizing shipping will require policies and regulation that create certainty about the long-term targets while allowing flexibility on the fuel pathways, incentivize the shift to zero emission fuels, and ensure a just and equitable transition while maintaining a global level playing field.

It will also require the creation of impactful partnerships involving stakeholders from different parts of the value chain and governments to establish the first green corridors where zero emission vessels can start trading, and to overcome the chicken-and-egg dilemma: To generate demand for zero emission fuels, the price must come down, which requires scaling up their production. But scaling up fuel production requires demand, otherwise it will not be economically viable.

Taking action to reduce emissions in the short term is also important, as it will have an immediate effect while at the same time reducing the cost of the transition to zero emission fuels. Potential actions include improving operational efficiency by optimizing speed, implementing just-in-time arrivals, or investing in energy efficiency. Many of these actions will require new forms of collaboration.

Global shipping accounts for almost 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

To be on track for full decarbonization by 2050, 5% of shipping fuels must be decarbonized by 2030.

“Climate change is the defining challenge of our time. Leaders from all sectors including maritime must play our part in transitioning to a net-zero economy. We have the technological solutions to decarbonize shipping, but we need to come together as an industry, with governments and the maritime energy supply chain to develop the business models, partnerships and the regulations needed to make zero emission shipping safe and commercially viable at scale before the end of this decade.”

Nick Brown
Chief Executive Officer, Lloyd’s Register
Global seaborne trade would grind to a halt without the millions of people working in the maritime sector – on shore and at sea. But in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and in light of changing demographics and increased global competition for talent, there are growing concerns about the ability to recruit and retain the people the maritime industry will need as it digitalizes, automates, and decarbonizes.

The crew change crisis revealed fundamental weaknesses in the way seafarers are treated as well as a failure of governments to treat seafarers as key workers. A critical shortfall of seafarers only risks being exacerbated by the war in Ukraine. There is thus a need to ensure that a career at sea is attractive to the next generation of seafarers and that they develop the skills needed to safely operate the ships of the future.

Attracting talent on shore is also becoming more challenging as the industry competes with high-profile sectors such as finance and tech for the best and the brightest. The maritime industry will need to become more visible, more diverse, and more inclusive, and offer attractive jobs and career pathways to a new generation of global talent drawn to purpose over profit.

“Shipping is a people industry. Our future depends on our ability to attract the right people both on shore and at sea. In a time of global competition for talent, changing demographics and high expectations on our industry to rapidly decarbonize and digitalize, we need to up our game. To succeed we must create an industry that is recognized as offering jobs with a purpose, good working conditions and attractive career prospects to an increasingly diverse global workforce.”

Lois Zabrocky
President and Chief Executive Officer, International Seaways

In 2021 more than 47 million US employees left their job. (The Great Resignation)

1.28% of seafarers are women.

5% of maritime executive leadership roles are occupied by women.

KEY QUESTIONS:
- What is needed to attract and retain seafarers in the future, and how can their wellbeing be improved following the crew change crisis? What skills will be needed in light of digitalization and decarbonization?
- How can the maritime industry increase diversity, equity, and inclusion to expand its talent base and create more innovative organizations?
- How can the maritime industry increase its visibility to make it more attractive to talent and to be better placed to protect its employees in times of crisis?
Day 1

- Welcome and opening
- Registration and reconnecting
- Making sense of a changing world
- Deep dives
- The emerging future
- Keynote and closing of day 1

Day 2

- Introduction to day 2
- Driving action
- Sharing commitments
- Closing
Programme overview

WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER
17:00-20:00 Welcome reception

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
08:00-09:00 Arrival and registration
09:00-10:30 Opening plenary
10:30-13:00 Working sessions
13:00-13:30 Lunch
13:30-14:30 Plenary session
14:30-16:30 Working sessions
16:30-18:00 Plenary session
18:30-22:30 Summit dinner

The Summit dinner is kindly hosted by the Baltic Exchange

FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER
08:30-09:00 Arrival and networking
09:00-09:30 Plenary session
09:30-12:00 Working sessions
12:00-13:00 Closing plenary
13:00-14:00 Lunch

The programme for the Annual Summit is still in development and may be subject to change. Please visit www.globalmaritimeforum.org for updates.
DATES AND VENUE
22-23 SEPTEMBER
Dock 72 at the Brooklyn Navy Yard
1 Dock 72 Way
Brooklyn
NY 11205
United States

Participation in the Global Maritime Forum’s Annual Summit is by invitation only. All working sessions are conducted under the Chatham House Rule.

ACCOMMODATION
We encourage you to stay in one of the official hotels. Rooms can be requested when registering for the Annual Summit.

FURTHER INFORMATION
To learn more, please visit www.globalmaritimeforum.org or contact us at summit@globalmaritimeforum.org

PRESS
Selected sessions of the Global Maritime Forum’s Annual Summit will be open to the press. Press related inquiries should be directed to Interim Head of Communications, Sofie Rud at rud@globalmaritimeforum.org
The Global Maritime Forum is supported by a visionary group of leading industry partners who support the Forum’s ambition of creating a common platform to drive positive change that benefits not only their organizations and the industry, but society as a whole.

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About the Global Maritime Forum

The Global Maritime Forum is an international not-for-profit organization dedicated to shaping the future of global seaborne trade to increase sustainable long-term economic development and human wellbeing.

Learn more at www.globalmaritimeforum.org

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