

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## For immediate release

# Consensus by transport industry leaders on the necessity to keep working towards ever more efficient and sustainable transport operations

**Brussels, 3rd June 2011:** "Action from the European Commission should be first to push for a better and faster coordination among Member States, modes, infrastructures, safety systems and operators while ensuring the complete involvement and satisfaction of the user", said **Patrick Ozoux from Michelin** at the conference "*The future of transport: Discussion on the EC White Paper*" on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. Attended by over 80 participants and co-chaired by **MEP<sup>1</sup> Dieter-Lebrecht Koch** and **MEP Peter van Dalen**, the event highlighted the needs and the possibilities for the industry to achieve greener, safer and more efficient transport.

Users are key influencers in this regard, whether on business or individually. By opting for environmentally-friendly travels, they drive sustainable transport. **Routerank** has developed a tool, enabling customers to choose time and cost-efficient trips, which also benefit the environment (www.routerank.com/).

There is no doubt that citizens attach great importance to mobility. This was qualified by MEP Dieter-Lebrecht Koch as a "basic right". The European Commission is clearly working in this direction with the recently adopted roadmap of 40 concrete initiatives aiming to fuel growth and employment and to create a single European transport area in which all residual barriers between modes and borders are eliminated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Member of the European Parliament







MEP Peter van Dalen stressed the significant available potential for maritime transport allowing it to play an even more prominent role in the future.

**Kristian Fuglesang** representing **INTERTANKO** underlined that due to its inherently global nature, regional rules should be aligned with international Conventions adopted by IMO<sup>2</sup> and ILO<sup>3</sup>. He welcomed the White Paper's recognition of this. He also urged Member States to take an affirmative stance to eradicate piracy noting that nearly half of the world's seaborne oil supply passes through the Indian Ocean hotspots. For tanker shipping and all other shipping services this is a risk no shipowner should be forced to take, and he called for support to the Save Our Seafarers campaign (www.saveourseafarers.com).

**Melanie Moore**, Vice-President for **Environment at WWL** offered a practical overview of how a logistics company strives for a transport industry with zero emissions across the entire supply chain. Moore show-cased different projects such as the *Orcelle*, a zero emissions concept ship, and WWL's forthcoming *Green Terminal*, which will provide a truly sustainable intermodal solution.

Organized by the Secretariat of the European Parliament Intergroup "Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development", run jointly by the European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the conference brought together high level experts from the European institutions, NGOs and the private sector.

#### Other speakers:

Sandro Santamato, European Commission Ellen Townsend, European Transport Safety Council Dirk Saile, BGL Robert Tieman, Central Bureau for Rhine and Inland Shipping

<sup>2</sup> International Maritime Organisation

<sup>3</sup> International Labour Organisation







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