



**PRIORITY 6
SUSTAINABLE SURFACE TRANSPORT**

MTCP

Maritime Transport Coordination Platform
Contract: 506328
Start: 13th April 2004
End: 12th April 2007

**WORK PACKAGE 2.3
MARITIME HUMAN RESOURCES**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE STUDY ON EUROPEAN MARITIME
GRADUATE AND
POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR FORMER SEAFARERS**

Document ID: **M23.11.04.051.001C/ToR**
Document Author/s: **World Maritime University**
Contributing to WP/Task: **2.3**
Circulation: **Public**

STUDY ON EUROPEAN MARITIME GRADUATE AND POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR FORMER SEAFARERS

I. Introduction/background

In response to the Communication of the Commission on the training and recruitment of seafarers¹, the Council of Ministers adopted specific conclusions, on 5 June 2003, on improving the image of Community shipping and attracting young people to the seafaring profession. In this context, it invited the Commission to consider a European-level campaign for promoting the seafaring profession and maritime education.

In the above mentioned Communication, the Commission deemed that one of the ways to promote the profession and attract more European officers to it, would be to enhance the quality of maritime studies while securing post sea job possibilities for former seafarers in the maritime cluster.

While today many national maritime education and training systems offer opportunities for students to qualify also for a career in the maritime sector ashore, following their sea experience, there is a need for furthering this trend and organising it at European level. It is worth noting that the METNET research programme² made proposals in this direction.

Hence, the Commission intends to examine the possibility for a European level qualification intended to prepare former seafarers for a career in the maritime industry and other related activities ashore.

II. Objectives

The overall objectives of the study are to:

- Bring in more people to the seafaring profession and keep them to the maritime cluster by offering them the possibility for post sea career paths in the shipping industry ashore or other maritime related activities.
- Improve the employability and professional mobility of Maritime Education and Training graduates.
- Promote the quality of maritime education and training and consider upgrading study programmes and widen specialization of former deck and engineer officers.

III. Work to be performed

The study should thus:

¹ Document COM/2001 (188) Final, adopted in April 2001.

² Thematic Network on Marine Education, Training and Mobility of Seafarers.

1. Consider the development of post-graduate specialisation studies for former top rank officers with unlimited certificates and former deck and engineer officers, by carrying out in particular the following:

- Assessment of the contents and level³ of the existing maritime education and training curricula in the Member States and the acceding countries⁴.
- Examination of career paths into the shipping industry and other maritime related activities;
- Illustration of the demand for former officers in the maritime cluster (by sector of activity);

2. On the basis of the above, propose a common curriculum for a European MSc and BSc degree programmes for master mariners or chief engineers and other ranks respectively.

3. Propose ways for implementing a European MSc and BSc degree programmes in the Community and the acceding countries by considering the following areas:

- Definition of specific criteria and quality standards for the choice of Universities/ Colleges that would deliver such programmes in each and every country;
- Development of a pan-European Maritime Education Expertise Network that would monitor the application of the study programmes;
- Regular exchanges of professors and instructors;
- Creation of a European Alumni Association of graduates and Career Office offering recruitment information and services only to members of the Association.

IV. Methodology

The above information/data collection and analysis involve interviews with competent administrations, maritime training institutions, shipping companies and other shore based organisations, professional organisations etc.

V. Reporting (indicative)

A start up meeting will be held shortly after the signature of the MTCP contract on 16 April 2004. Following this meeting, and within **two weeks** from the signature of the

³ Curricula may cover the minimum requirements of the STCW Convention or go beyond them.

⁴ The 10 Candidate countries that will accede to the Community as from 1 May 2004.

contract, the consultant shall submit a working plan detailing the work to be performed (annotated outline) and the timetable for the completion of the work.
DG TREN will have **two weeks** to assess the content of the study and submit any comments.

- An **interim report** should be submitted no later than **16 weeks** following the signature of the contract.
DG TREN will have **two weeks** to assess the draft report and submit to the consultant any comments thereon after reception.

- The **draft final report** should be submitted no later than **20 weeks** after signature of the contract.
DG TREN will have **two weeks** to assess the draft final report.

The final report should be submitted within **2 weeks** following the approval of the draft final report.

CVT7/4