

12th FEMIP Conference – Athens – Thursday 18 and Friday 19 April 2013 Megaron Athens International Conference Centre

Mediterranean blue economy: enhancing marine and maritime cooperation

Dear Sir,
Dear Madam,

On behalf of the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Commission and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), it is our pleasure to invite you to the **12th FEMIP Conference** which will be held on **18 and 19 April 2013** in **Athens**, Greece.

The Mediterranean partner countries have taken the lead to build cooperation with the European Union in various areas having an impact on the sea. The three institutions joined forces in 2011 to assess how to enhance marine and maritime cooperation in the Mediterranean. The EIB has supported critical port infrastructure with major lending operations in the Mediterranean over the last 33 years. The European Commission has been conducting a technical dialogue and assistance on Integrated Maritime Policy since 2009. The IMO provides for the general adoption of the highest practicable standards in matters concerning maritime safety, security, efficiency of navigation and prevention and control of marine pollution from ships.

The 12th FEMIP Conference will take this cooperation a step forward. It will provide an opportunity, through targeted stakeholder roundtables, to discuss:

- *Starting-up maritime clusters and promoting networking across training institutes*
- *Bridging the gap towards effective safety and surveillance*
- *Addressing synergies across projects and opportunities for development and investments*

This Conference will offer an interactive platform for discussion and debate and will give you ample opportunity for networking with your peers and experts. Please note that the working languages of the conference will be Arabic, English, French and Greek with interpreting facilities available throughout all conference sessions.

To confirm your participation it is important that you register (preferably before Friday 5 April) by completing the online registration form which can be found on the Conference website (www.amiando.com/12thFEMIP_Conference.html). The registration code is **FEMIP-attendee**. Given that spaces are limited, participation is upon invitation only and this invitation is non-transferable.

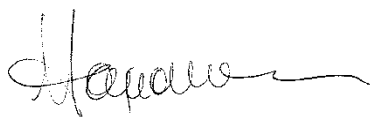
For any other information concerning the organisation of the Conference, please contact the event organisers, GOPA-Cartermill S.A. (12thFEMIPconference@gopa-cartermill.com, ☎ +32 (0)2 286 1997).

We look forward to meeting you in Athens.

Yours sincerely,



Philippe de Fontaine Vive
Vice President
European Investment Bank



Maria Damanaki
European Commissioner for
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries



Andrew Winbow
Assistant Secretary-General
International Maritime Organisation

Enc.: Draft Conference programme