Nordic Ministerial Statement on Maritime Resilience and Sustainable Transition

As Nordic Ministers responsible for sustainable shipping, we recall the vision of the Nordic Council of Ministers for the Nordic to become the most sustainable and integrated region in the world. We reaffirm our strong commitment to transforming political ambition, expressed in both the Clydebank Declaration (2021) and the Nordic Ministerial Declaration on Green Corridors (2022), into action.

The Nordic region is uniquely positioned to lead the global transition towards a sustainable, resilient, and competitive maritime sector drawing on a strong tradition of cooperation, world-class maritime industries, and ambitious climate goal of zero emission shipping by 2050. Realizing this potential requires coordinated action across the full maritime value chain.

We recognize that maritime decarbonization and societal resilience must go hand in hand. The Nordics have always prioritized safety, preparedness, and secure supply chains, recognizing that robust maritime transport is essential both in everyday trade and in times of geopolitical uncertainty. Increasing our ability to use and produce sustainable fuels and electrification can reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels, strengthen energy security, and build a more resilient maritime energy system.

We recognize the need for a Nordic Sustainable Shipping Forum, ideally under the auspices of the Nordic Council of Ministers, to coordinate actions and accelerate implementation for sustainable shipping, including the Nordic Road Map for the Introduction of Sustainable Zero Carbon Fuels in Shipping. Such a forum should serve as a practical mechanism for aligning public and private initiatives, coordinating investments, and ensuring progress on cross-border green corridor projects and maritime resilience initiatives.

We commit to continue to support the realization of green shipping corridors in the Nordic region as a concrete and prioritized outcome of our collaboration and emphasize the vital importance of public-private partnerships. Only through close collaboration can innovative solutions move from pilot projects to large-scale implementation.

In this regard, we express our intent to cooperate with a view to provide for a more coordinated Nordic approaches to financing sustainable shipping initiatives and green corridors as proposed in the Nordic Road Map. By addressing financial barriers, the Nordic countries can help reduce first-mover risk and accelerate deployment of sustainable maritime solutions, including in sparsely populated areas

To confirm the Nordic countries' ambition to move policy into action and ensure the sustainability and resilience of the everyday maritime transport, we commit to assess, how public ferry tenders in the Nordic region could include requirements for reduced greenhouse gas emission, thereby supporting both decarbonization and reduced dependence on fossil fuels.

We acknowledge the need for ice-classed ships to ensure safe and sustainable maritime transport in ports and areas in the Nordic region. We commit to decarbonizing all segments of shipping and to maintain a level playing field between ice-strengthened and not-ice-strengthened ships in international, regional and national regulation.

We call for coordinated Nordic support for an ambitious global agreement on greenhouse gas reductions from shipping at the International Maritime Organization. The Nordic countries stand together in advocating for regulations that ensures reductions in line with the goals of the IMO 2023 GHG Strategy and creates the predictability needed for large-scale investment.

Through close Nordic collaboration and innovation, we aim not only to achieve ambitious climate targets but also to inspire sustainable maritime solutions globally. In doing so, The Nordic region can become a leading example of sustainable and resilient maritime transport, and the Nordic region can improve its global competitiveness in accordance with the recent Declaration for a Strong and Competitive Nordic Region of the 1st October 2026[1].

Mr. Martin Lidegaard, Minister for Business and Competitiveness, Denmark

Ms. Sigrun Gjerløw Aasland, Minister for Climate and Environment, Norway

Ms. Lulu Ranne, Minister for Transport and Communications, Finland

Mr. Eyjólfur Ármannsson , Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Iceland

Ms. Iddimanngiiu Jensen Bianco, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure, Outlying Districts and Emergency Preparedness, Greenland

Mr. Jacob Vestergaard, Minister for Trade and Industry, Faroe Islands

Mr. Mats Perämaa, Minister of Finance, Åland Islands

[Sweden]*

[1] https://www.norden.org/en/declaration/declaration-strong-and-competitive-nordic-region

*Endorsement will be subject to a decision following the establishment of a new Swedish Government