



**Georgia  
International  
Maritime  
Forum**





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## Background

Georgia International Maritime Forum was funded under the initiative of the Government of Georgia in order to reflect the world maritime initiatives and promote Georgia as a maritime nation throughout the globe and to promote common values Georgia shares with international maritime community. First ever Georgia International Maritime Forum 2016 aims to highlight the readiness to be the host country for IMO 2016 theme shipping: Indispensable to the World. Forum aims to promotion of common values of International Shipping.

## Format

GIMF offers the possibility for inter action between the regulator and the industry and to open dialogue between shipping personalities and environmentalists. Key players of the shipping industry will set the stage for panel discussions, whilst distinguished and high level guests will deliver their key-note speeches and presentations.

## Engagement and Promotion

GIMF aims the engagement of general public in the discussions relating to shipping and environment. Promotion of common values every responsible shipping actor shares worldwide will be the key to the development of proper understanding of shipping by the general public not only in the Black Sea region but beyond.

## Key Facts

The Government of Georgia hold in September 2016 at the port city of Batumi, Georgia's maritime centre, an international maritime forum under the patronage of Prime Minister H.E. Giorgi Kvirikashvili. The principal aim of the event was to raise awareness within the region and beyond, of the indispensability of shipping and, at the same time, of the critical need of ensuring healthy oceans, a delicate balance that a carefully devised and executed maritime transport policy can go a long way to sustain.

The dates for the Forum were for the week commencing 12 September 2016 with Tuesday 13 being the opening and main day. Two other days are devoted towards taking the Forum to a practical level. The International Maritime Organization hold a seminar where the main participants were senior maritime transport officials of the Black and Caspian Seas and Moldova. The seminar focused on maritime transport policy. Another parallel event was jointly organized by the GEF-UNDP-IMO Global Maritime Energy Efficiency Partnerships (GloMEEP) Project and the Government of Georgia. The representatives of 10 IMO member States, Argentina, China, Georgia, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Morocco, Panama, Philippines and South Africa have participated in this seminar.

The whole event offered possibility for interaction between the regulator and the industry and opened dialogue between shipping personalities and environmentalists.

The Prime Minister of Georgia opened the forum. The first Vice Prime Minister of Georgia, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development and the Secretary-General of IMO together delivered the keynote



speeches that set the scene for a high level discussion focused on the principal aim of the Forum that definitely went beyond the Black Sea region.

## International and National Media about #GIMF2016

Some of the remarkable media outlooks about #GIMF2016:

### The Manila Times

*“What is impressive in the Georgian event is the active participation of agencies such as the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Finance, all of which play key roles in advancing the country’s maritime industry. Underpinning the Georgian initiative to stimulate the maritime industry is an integrated national maritime policy that brings together the various sectors, e.g. manning and crewing, shipping operations and ship management, and port operations, to name a few, towards a cohesive and harmonized direction.”*

**Manila Times September 17, 2016**

*“The launch of the GIMF 2016 inaugurated an event to be convened biennially in this Black Sea country, as one initiative of the Georgian Government for the promotion of excellence in shipping worldwide through high-level discussions by regulators and industry players. At GIMF 2016, Georgia highlights its economic and business inputs by showcasing the reforms it undertook in developing its maritime industry. At the same time, it invites ship owners and investors to partake of the opportunities offered by the country in vessel management, crewing, shipping and logistics. Almost all Georgian speakers, both from government and industry, spoke about doing business in an environment free from bureaucratic processes, red tape and corruption. It is an event that promotes Georgia as a friendly jurisdiction for ship owners and maritime stakeholders.”*

**Hellenic Shipping News September 19, 2016**

*In total more than 20 international media outlets, such as Lloyd’s List, Marine Insight, Marine Link, SeaTrade Maritime News, etc have spoken about #GIMF2016*





## Speakers at #GIMF2016



**GIORGI KVIRIKASHVILI**  
Prime Minister OF Georgia



**DIMITRY KUMSISHVILI**  
Minister of Economy and Sustainable  
Development of Georgia and the  
First vice Prime Minister of Georgia



**MR. KITACK LIM**  
Secretary-General of the IMO



**MARIOS DEMETRIADES**  
Minister of Communications and  
Works of Cyprus



**MR IOANIS THEOTOKAS**  
the Secretary General for the Ministry  
of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy



**MR. ALTAI EFENDIEV**  
Secretary General of GUAM



**VOLODYMYR OMELYAN**  
Minister of Infrastructure of  
Ukraine



**JOE MIZZI**  
Minister for Transport and  
Infrastructure of Malta



**GIGLA AGULASHVILI**  
The Minister of Environment and  
Natural Resources Protection of  
Georgia



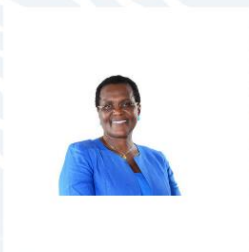
**MICHAEL STOCKER**  
Director of Ocean Conversation  
Research



**PETER WILD**  
G. P. Wild (International) Limited



**AMBASSADOR MICHAEL B  
CHRISTIDES**  
Secretary General of the BSEC



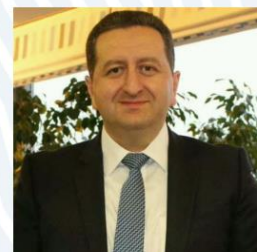
**MS. NANCY KARIGITHU**  
Principal Secretary for the State  
Department of Maritime and  
Shipping Affairs of Kenya



**H.E. AMBASSADOR TAMAR  
BERUCHASHVILI**  
The Ambassador of Georgia  
extraordinary and plenipotentiary to  
the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland



**ZURAB PATARADZE**  
Chairman of the Government of the  
Autonomous Republic of Adjara



**CAPT. MAMUKA AKHALADZE**  
Director of Maritime Transport  
Agency of Georgia



**PROFESSOR MARKO PAVLIHA**

Vice Dean, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime studies and Transportation, Visiting Professor and Governor at IMO IMLI, Malta; Former Minister of Transportation of Slovenia; Former Deputy-Speaker of the Slovenian Parliament



**LINO VASSALLO**

Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO



**RENE ARIKAS**

Director General of the Estonian Maritime Administration



**BILL MOTT**

Director The Ocean Project



**ANIL SHARMA**

President and CEO of GMS



**THOMAS KAMINSKI**

Commanding Officer USCG in Europe



**FREDERICK J. KENNEY**

Director, Legal and External Affairs at the International Maritime Organization (IMO)



**GABINO GONZALEZ**

Head of Office for IMO/UNEP REMPEC



**DR JOSE MATHEICAL**

Head, Technical Co-operation Coordination & Major Projects Section of the IMO



**LEVAN AKHVEDIANI**

CEO of the Anaklia Development Consortium



**MOHAMED ZAITOUN**

Assistant Vice President New Building Technical Projects



**RANDY DAY**

President and CEO of Day & Partners, LLC



**DAVID KERR**

Head of Unit – Transport, Telecoms and Energy at Permanent Representation of Malta to the European Union



**JOSÉ MAURA**

Director International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds



## Speeches & Presentations at #GIMF2016

Presentations at GIMS2016 varied from marine tourism to integrated maritime transport policy, with the input of Shipping Indispensable to world theme.

The full list of presentations and speeches are available at: [www.maritimegeorgia.ge](http://www.maritimegeorgia.ge)

## Batumi Declaration

### DECLARATION

#### OF THE GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL MARITIME FORUM 2016

**Batumi, September 13, 2016**

About seventy per cent of the Earth's surface is covered by water and the oceans hold over ninety six per cent of all Earth's water. Water is life.

People all over the world rely on ships to transport the commodities, fuel, foodstuffs, goods and products on which they depend. Maritime transport is the backbone of international trade and global market.

Safe, secure, efficient and environmentally friendly maritime transportation is fundamental to the development of global trade and the world economy and the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

WE PARTICIPANTS of the Georgia International Maritime Forum, 2016

HAVING GATHERED in Batumi, on September 13, 2016 at the high-level meeting launched by the Prime-Minister of Georgia H.E. Mr. Giorgi Kvirikashvili, attended by senior and expert level officials from governments and the industry, shipping personalities and environmentalists, to raise awareness of the indispensability of shipping within the region and beyond, and to discuss the critical need of ensuring healthy oceans in the context of an integrated maritime policy;

NOTING that, as the World Maritime Day theme for 2016 so rightly acknowledges, shipping is indispensable to the world and, is set to remain central to world economic growth as we make the inevitable transition towards an era of clean and sustainable development;

NOTING FURTHER that, as the World Oceans Day theme of 2016 so rightly points out, healthy oceans mean a healthy planet;



RECALLING that 2017 marks the fiftieth anniversary from when the Father of the modern law of the sea, Dr Arvid Pardo, made his monumental declaration to the United Nations General Assembly that the seabed beyond national jurisdiction is the common heritage of mankind, leading to the adoption of UNCLOS;

RECALLING FURTHER that 2017 also marks the seventieth anniversary from the adoption of the IMO Convention and the sixtieth anniversary from its entry into force, critical landmarks that led to the adoption of global high standards for the safety and security of life at sea and the protection of the environment from shipping;

REAFFIRMING that States, in their capacity as flag, port and coastal States, have obligations and responsibilities under applicable international law in respect of maritime safety, security and protection of the marine environment;

UNDERSCORE that humankind depends on a safe, sound and secure maritime sector in order to foster human development, feed billions of people, generate economic growth and prosperity and preserve ecological diversity, as well as encompassing cultural, social and humanitarian components;

HIGHLIGHT that the significance of the East Europe and West Asia region for the global economy is likely to rise in the decades to come and in this context increases the importance of the Black sea, which forms an important crossroads and a strategic intersection of east-west and south-north corridors that allow new and economically attractive sea routes;

EMPHASISE the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organisations and forums to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in the maritime domain and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources;

RECOGNISE the importance of the Georgia International Maritime Forum as a new venue for discussions among all participating states for exploration of new areas of sectoral cooperation and identification of key projects in the relative fields;

URGE that the Georgia International Maritime Forum be held biennially, in order to continuously provide a platform to reflect on major issues and challenges of the maritime sector and open up new opportunities of communication for the international maritime community, governments, industries, experts and key players of this sector;

STRONGLY RECOMMEND that GIMF2018 focuses in particular on the linkage between safe, secure, efficient and environmentally friendly maritime transportation, the development of global trade, the world economy and, the realisation of new United Nations development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This BATUMI DECLARATION was adopted by acclamation at the first Georgia International Maritime Forum this thirteenth day of September 2016.





## Full List of Speakers, Guests, Attendees and the Companies at #GIMF2016

### *Speakers list:*

1. **H.E. Giorgi Kvirikashvili** – Prime Minister of Georgia
2. **H.E. Kitak Lim** - Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization
3. **H.E. Dimitry Kumsishvili** - First vice Prime Minister of Georgia, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia.
4. **H.E. Karmenu VELLA** Euro-Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (Video Address)
5. **H.E. Zurab Pataradze** Chairman of the Government of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara
6. **H.E. Marios Demetriades** Minister of Communications and Works of Cyprus
7. **H.E. JOE MIZZI** Minister for Transport and Infrastructure of Malta.
8. **H.E. VOLODYMYR OMELYAN** Minister of Infrastructure of Ukraine
9. **H.E. GIGLA AGULASHVILI** Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia
10. **H.E. JOSÉ MAURA** Director International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds
11. **Mr. Giorgi TABUASHVILI** – First Deputy Minister of Finance of Georgia, Director General (DG) of Georgian Revenue Service (GRS)
12. **Mr. Mohammad SAEDINEJAD** – Vice Minister of Roads and Urban Development and Managing Director of PMO, Islamic Republic of Iran
13. **H.E. Ambassador Michael B. CHRISTIDES** – Secretary General of the BSEC
14. **H.E. Ambassador Altai EFENDIEV**– Secretary General of GUAM – Organization for Democracy and Economic Development
15. **MR. LINO VASSALLO** Permanent Representative of Malta to IMO
16. **Capt. Mamuka Akhaladze** Director of Maritime Transport Agency of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
17. **Mr. Levan AKHVLEDIANI** – Chief Executive Officer, Anaklia Development Consortium
18. **Prof. Marko PAVLIHA** – Vice Dean, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime studies and Transportation, Visiting Professor and Governor at IMO IMLI , Malta
19. **Mr. Michael STOCKER** – Director of Ocean Conservation Research
20. **Captain Thomas KAMINSKY** – U.S. Coast Guard’s Commanding Officer of Activities Europe
21. **Ms. Nancy KARIGITHU** – Principal Secretary for the State Department of Maritime and Shipping Affairs of Kenya
- 22.



23. **Mr. Eero NAABER** – Head of Development and Innovation, Estonian Maritime Administration
24. **Mr. Gabino GONZALEZ** – Head of Office, The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)
25. **Mr. FREDERICK J. KENNEY** – Director, Legal and External Relations Division, International Maritime Organization
26. **Dr. Jose MATHEICKAL** – Chief technical adviser (GBP) and Head, ITCP Implementation and Major Projects, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization
27. **Mr. Peter WILD** – Expert, G. P. Wild (International) Limited
28. **Mr. Giorgi CHOGOVDZE** – Head of National Tourism Administration of Georgia
29. **Capt. Irakli SHARABIDZE** – Rector of Batumi State Maritime Academy
30. **Mr. Mamuka BERDZENISHVILI** – Chairman of Adjara A.R. Tourism Department
31. **Ms. Rande DAY** – CEO, Day and Partners LLC
32. **Mr. Alkan ALICIK** – Managing Director, MSC GEORGIA LLC
33. **Mr. Maurice BAKER** – Managing Director, COLUMBIA SHIPMANAGEMENT LTD
34. **Mr. Levan AKHVLEDIANI** – Chief Executive Officer, Anaklia Development Consortium
35. **Mr. Evgeni PEEVSKI** – Deputy Chief Risk Officer, TBC Bank
36. **Mr. David KERR** – Head of Unit – Transport, Telecoms and Energy (Maritime Affairs Attaché), Permanent Representation of Malta to the European Union
37. **Mr. Kofi MBIAH** – Chairmen of Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization
38. **Mr. Fred KENNEY** – Director, Legal and External Relations Division, International Maritime Organization
39. **Tamar Beruchashvili** - The Ambassador of Georgia extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and currently is Georgia's Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Permanent Representative of Georgia to IMO.
40. **MR LOANIS THEOTOKAS** the Secretary General for the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy
41. **Professor Marko Pavliha** Vice Dean, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime studies and Transportation, Visiting Professor and Governor at IMO IMLI , Malta;
42. **Mr Rene Arikas** Director General of the Estonian Maritime Administration.
43. **MR. BILL MOTT** Director The Ocean Project



44. **Dr Anil Sharma** President and CEO of GMS, the world's largest cash buyer of ships.
45. **MR. MOHAMED ZAITOUN** Assistant Vice President of New Building Technical Projects

**Apart the speakers the forum have attended:**

1. Mr. Rene Arikas - Director General of the Estonian Maritime Administration
2. Mr. Janis Krastins - Director of Maritime Administration of Latvia
3. Mr. Zhivko Petrov - Executive Director of Executive Agency Maritime Administration- Bulgaria
4. Mr. Mohammad Rastad - Vice Minister and representatives of Roads and Urban Development and Managing Director and representatives of PMO Iran
5. Mr. Ali Akbar Marzban - Director General, Seafarers and International Specialized Agencies, Iran
6. Mr. Alexander Mezei - Director, Constanta Harbour Master's Officer Romania – Romania
7. Mr. Razvan-Gabriel Trandafir - General Director Romanian Naval Authority
8. Ms. Tamar Beruchashvili - Ambassador of Georgia to UK, Georgia Perm Rep at IMO
9. Mr. Guram Jalagonia – Director of Georgian Civil Aviation Agency
10. Mr. Reval Babilua - Director of Hydrography Service
11. Ms. Ketevan Aleksidze - Director of United Airports of Georgia
12. Mr. Giorgi Ermakovi - Mayor of Batumi
13. Mr. Giorgi Pataridze Chairman and representatives of Service Development Agency of Georgia
14. Mr. Valeri Mokeria - Honorary Council Kazakhstan
15. Mr. Chris Socratous - Managing Director Leaders Ship Registrations
16. Mr. Yasin Temizkan - Consul General Turkey
17. Mr. Stephane Hecky President and representatives of Gaussin Group
18. Mr. Jonathan Pace – Head Programme Management and Maritime Transport Policy
19. Mr. Hasebe Masamichi - The Japan Association of Maritime Safety
20. Mr. Charlie Murphy – Communications Manager at Dublin Port Company
21. Capt. Huseyin Yuce - Black Sea Port State Control Secretary
22. Ms. Danae Bezantakou – Managing Director of NAVIGATOR SHIPPING CONSULTANTS LTD

**Also representatives of:**

1. Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara
2. Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
3. Parliament of Georgia
4. Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications-Turkey
5. Ministry of Transport Republic of Malta



6. Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine
7. International Maritime Organization (IMO)
8. State Maritime Administration of Azerbaijan
9. Ports and Maritime Organization of Iran
10. Ministry of Transport and Road Infrastructure - Moldova
11. Harbor Master Public Institution "Harbour Master Giurgiulesti" - Moldova
12. The State Service of Maritime and River Transport- Turkmenistan
13. Ministry of Infrastructure- Ukraine
14. Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen Republic of Malta
15. Batumi international Container terminal
16. Department of Maritime and Shipping Affairs of Kenya
17. Founding member of WISTA
18. G M S [DUBAI] - World's Largest Buyer of Ships & Offshore Assets
19. Interlegal (International Law Firm)
20. IMB DENICZILIK VE TICARET LTD
21. International Shipping Bureau–Dubai.
22. Bureau Veritas
23. World Maritime University (WMU)
24. Primelex (Law Firm)
25. Admaris GMPH
26. TBC Group
27. Batumi Sea Port
28. Queensway Services
29. Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC Georgia)
30. LLC . "Logisticservice"
31. Global Maritime Energy Efficiency Partnerships Project (GloMEEP) – Morocco, Philippines, South Africa, IMO consultants,
32. Ocean tankers
33. Odessa Maritime Academy
34. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
35. Ramses
36. APM Terminals, Poti Sea Port
37. Prime Marine
38. Batumi Navigation Teaching University (BNTU)
39. Maritime Training Center Anri
40. CMT
41. Batumi Sea Port (BSP)
42. Venezuela
43. Seafarers Hospital
44. Batumi Maritime Medical Center



45. Trans Logic
46. Free Zone
47. Columbia
48. Bank Republic
49. COSCO
50. GOG
51. Georgian Railway
52. SDA
53. Pace Georgia
54. Korea Ship Register
55. US embassy
56. Pace Group – Sponsor
57. Poseidon
58. Coast guard of Georgia
59. Registered from Odessa, Kiev, France, Greece, Baku, Georgia