



Vice-président du Conseil régional de Bretagne

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N° :

Rennes, the

Subject: Nomination for the Chairmanship of the Working Group on Marine Renewable Energies of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions Atlantic Arc Commission

Mr. President of the Atlantic Arc Commission,

The Brittany Region has its sights firmly set on the development of marine renewable energies. It is set to host one of the first offshore wind farms in France. It is investing in the development of the Port of Brest and conducting a strategic planning study for the development of marine renewable energies in Brittany.

The aim is to share these types of trials run by the Atlantic Arc Regions in order to move forwards together towards a better development of this industrial sector which generates jobs, but which also provides solutions to take practical measures against climate change. In line with the Atlantic Power Cluster initiative, Brittany wants to continue cooperation between the Atlantic Arc Regions on the various aspects of the development of this sector.

It is essential that we pursue the objectives set out by the European Union regarding the reduction of greenhouse gases and the energy mix.

More generally, the practical implementation of the action plan for a maritime strategy in the Atlantic Region must be supported by concrete initiatives led by the regions directly concerned. The development of the marine renewable energies sectors must form one of these initiatives, with a view to blue growth.

All of the Atlantic Arc Regions must be able to benefit from the rich energy resources of the sea. As such, it is vital that we pursue the actions to develop this new industrial sector, by ensuring the continuation of the work undertaken within the CPMR on the industrial development aspects but also on the integration of these projects into environment issues and their social acceptance.

That is why the Regional Council of Brittany is nominating itself for the coordination of the Atlantic Arc Commission's Working Group on Marine Renewable Energies.

This nomination has multiple strengths. Numerous marine renewable energy technologies are being developed along the coasts of Brittany. And, beyond large-scale industrial production, it is also investing in development studies with the aim of making the islands off its coasts self-sufficient in energy. This attention to what could be wrongly considered as micro-productions should in fact make it easier to meet the requirements of numerous peripheral regions, particularly those with non-connected islands.

The ambition of all involved should therefore be to develop this industrial sector, but also to respond to the expectations and concerns of citizens as fully as possible with regard to jobs, sustainable development, the needs regarding other offshore activities and of course environmental protection.

Through this subject, the Brittany Regions intends to help promote the vision of an integrated development of human activities at sea, as it has always done as part of its work on the integrated maritime policy.

These different components, combined with the desire to pursue inter-regional cooperation and develop this shared industry in the Atlantic, alongside the other Regions, must allow for the implantation of a rich and comprehensive work programme that is also pragmatic and realistic, for the benefit of the CPMR's Atlantic Arc Regions.

This working group must of course continue to operate in line with the recommendations issued by the European Commission in January 2014 and continue its work with the other groups representing the different CPMR sea basins.

With this in mind, the Brittany Region proposes to coordinate this working group on the basis of a specific draft programme, which remains open to proposals from other Regions, and with the desire to continue the work carried out under the Canterbury Presidency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes that form a unique, somewhat abstract shape.

Pierre KARLESKIND
Vice-President of the Regional Council of Brittany

Conseil régional de Bretagne

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Work plan proposal of the Brittany Region

Action 1: Report on the development of marine renewable energies in the Atlantic Arc Region

A 1.1. Needs identified by the Regions.

Discussion on the situation of the Atlantic Regions and on their development focus and concerns.

A 1.2. Production capacity in five years' time.

Obtaining a prospective review for 2020 of the installed production at this date and the potential developments, in line with the European energy strategy.

Action 2: Knowledge sharing and potential cooperation

A 2.1. Sharing in the field of research and development:

industries, smart grid, societal studies, environmental studies.

Sharing feedback from the Atlantic regions on the growth of the MRE sector and identifying areas of cooperation to strengthen.

A 2.2. Sharing in the field of inter-regional connections: cross-border cooperation and network security.

Analysing the issues associated with cross-border connections in collaboration with the European Commission, and through the examples of the North Sea and the Baltic Sea.

A 2.3. Sharing in the field of construction and the supply chain.

Studying possibilities for pooling in the field of the installation and maintenance of MRE sites on the Atlantic coast.

Action 3: The needs of the Atlantic Arc Regions in the development of marine renewable energies with regard to the EU

A 3.1. Standardising economic rules at EU level (R&D aid, competition).

Continuing the work of the CPMR on the institutional aspects to improve in order to facilitate the emergence of the sector.

A 3.2. Visibility in EU law.

Obtaining clarification on the future legal developments with regard to support for the sector.

Action 4: The incorporation of renewable energy development in the AMS

A 4.1. The development of marine renewable energies and the AMS.

How to organise the incorporation of this sector in the broader framework of the AMS.

A 4.2. Renewable marine energies: contribution to blue growth.

Identifying the components required for the establishment of the basis for the follow-up of the growth of MRE at Atlantic Arc level, within the framework of blue growth.

The working groups will meet every quarter, as proposed by Canterbury. Each region will be able to share their assessments and expectations so as to make progress together on shared issues in order to find joint solutions adapted to each region.

The review of actions 1, 2 and 3 will make it possible to substantiate the work of group 4, the conclusions of which will be used to provide the European Union with an insight into the achievement and the expectations of the Atlantic Arc Regions in terms of the support and structuring of the development of the marine renewable energies sector, a promising sector that contributes to blue growth.

MRE events from March 2015 to June 2016

EAWE from 17 to 20 November 2015 in Paris.

ICOE 2016 from Tuesday 23 February to Thursday 25 February 2016 – Edinburgh.