



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 4 July 2011

12425/11

CADREFIN 48

INFORMATION NOTE

from: Presidency

to: Permanent Representatives Committee

Subject: EU Integrated Maritime Policy - organisation of work in the Council

1. The European Commission adopted a *Communication from the Commission ‘an Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union’ COM (2007) 575 by the Conclusions of the European Council meeting of 14 December 2007* in Lisbon.
2. A Friends of the Presidency (FoP) working party for the IMP was convened for the first time during the Portuguese Presidency for the purpose of initiating the EU integrated Maritime Policy. Since then all Presidencies (except Slovenian) were working in the framework of Friends of Presidency working group preparing Council Conclusion on IMP to stress and welcome the Commission in their effort of establishing this horizontal and cross-cutting, new EU policy.

3. The Belgian Presidency in 2009 started working on the first legislative proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a programme to support the further development of the Integrated Maritime Policy. This work have been continued by the Hungarian Presidency but the group was chaired by Belgium. Poland took the dossier and intends to continue and accomplish the work. Poland is also planning the adoption of Council Conclusion on IMP during its Presidency.
4. Polish Presidency intends to continue the work on the EU Integrated Maritime Policy within the framework of the Friends of Presidency working group.
5. The Friends of the Presidency group will be chaired by an expert from the Polish Permanent Representation.
6. The Friends of the Presidency group will report to Coreper II.
7. The Friends of Presidency Working Party will not have interpretation.
8. All member States are invited to participate in the work of the FoP working party.
9. The indicative dates of the FoP meetings are as following:12th July, 1st September, 20th September, 28th September, 25th October, 8th November. It is planned to submit the text of the regulation at COREPER II on 3 November and next to the General Affairs Council meeting on 15 November.
