



MALTA EU 2017

Informal Ministerial Meeting on Blue
Growth and Ocean Governance in
the EU and the Mediterranean;
Innovation, and Nautical Tourism

19 – 20 April 2017
Grand Master's Palace, Valletta

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Media Background Note

Background

Blue Growth is the long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the maritime sector and is the maritime response to attaining the goals of the Europe 2020. The meeting will discuss the importance of innovation in the maritime sector and as well as nautical tourism, which is regarded as a strategic ally of the Blue Growth Agenda.

International Ocean governance refers to the applicable policies, and activities with respect to the world's oceans. The European Commission and the EU's High Representative launched a joint agenda for the future of our oceans.

Aim

The aim of the meeting is to discuss the various aspects and the future direction of the Blue Growth Initiative and the development of the implementation of ocean governance in the EU and the Mediterranean. The meeting will also revolve around the importance of innovation for the sector's competitiveness.

Proceedings

The meeting will be chaired by Emmanuel Mallia, Maltese Minister for Competitiveness, Digital, Maritime & Services Economy, and will be split into three sessions as follows:

Introductory Speeches (09:15-10:20)

Session I (10:45-12.45): Blue Growth, Innovation & International Ocean Governance

Session II (14:00-16:00): West Med & Nautical Tourism

Session III (16:30-17:00): Adoption of Presidency Conclusions/Ministerial Declaration

Participants

EU Commissioners, EU Ministers responsible for the Integrated Maritime Policy and Members of Parliament.

Expected Outcomes

A Ministerial Declaration shall be adopted covering the thematic issues of Ocean Governance, Blue Growth, Innovation and Nautical Tourism.