

NOTE

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Facts about the Plan for Growth in the Danish Maritime Sector and the initiatives

In May 2016, the Government established the Maritime Strategy Team, which was tasked with developing recommendations for supporting the international competitiveness of the Danish maritime industry towards 2025. The Maritime Strategy Team presented its recommendations to the Minister for Industry, Business and Growth in April 2017.

Subsequently, the Government has continued working with the recommendations made by the Maritime Strategy Team, and this has resulted in the final Plan for Growth in the Danish Maritime Sector.

Plan for Growth in the Danish Maritime Sector

The Plan for Growth in the Danish Maritime Sector contains 37 initiatives.

The initiatives cover a wide spectrum within a great number of areas, including inter alia digitalisation and new technology, framework conditions, research and education, international cooperation, marketing and export promotion.

The initiatives described in the Plan for Growth fall within four thematic areas:

The Maritime Denmark – A digitalisation hub

Digitalisation and new technology as well as entrepreneurship play a central role in the Plan for Growth, which contains the following initiatives:

- Denmark should become a leading laboratory for testing new maritime technologies, digital systems, types of production and operation as well as the generation of energy.
- Denmark should specifically be a frontrunner within the development, testing and use of maritime autonomous technology, inter alia as an accelerator of new business models.
- Efforts should be made to utilise technological potentials in the best possible way, for example in the Danish Register of Shipping.
- A consultative partnership should be established for digitalisation of the Danish Maritime Sector.
- Efforts should be made to handle maritime cybersecurity challenges, including increased resilience within the maritime ICT infrastructure, based on common EU and IMO standards and principles.

- Efforts should be made to introduce a common European ship reporting platform so that ships experience a reduced amount of administrative burdens when calling at EU ports.
- The coming maritime spatial plan's creation of a balanced framework for future uses of the resources of the sea and the ensuing development of new maritime business models should be supported.
- Efforts should be made to ensure increased use of released maritime data and the further availability of relevant maritime data in order to promote maritime innovation and business development on the basis of publically available data.
- Together with the industry, efforts should be made to strengthen the maritime entrepreneurial cluster.

The Maritime Denmark – A hub with attractive framework conditions

Denmark competes directly with other countries when it comes to maintaining businesses and jobs and attracting new investments and activities. Therefore, the Government has great focus on the sector's framework conditions to enable Danish companies to compete with their foreign colleagues on a level playing field. The Plan for Growth contains the following initiatives:

- In continuation of the industrial and entrepreneurial agreement, the DIS (Danish International Register of Shipping) taxation scheme applicable to seafarers should be extended to also cover offshore supply ships from 1 January 2019 in order to keep up activities in the offshore sector and support its development, while focusing on Danish jobs.
- In continuation of the industrial and entrepreneurial agreement, the fee for registration of merchant ships should be abolished as quickly as possible in 2018.
- In continuation of the industrial and entrepreneurial agreement, a dialogue has been initiated with the EU Commission about the possibilities of introducing a scheme for maritime service engineers or a similar arrangement that will enhance the global competitiveness of maritime companies.
- The Government will see to it that the maritime industries in Denmark have competitive framework conditions, for example by means of benchmark analyses.
- The Government will examine any potential financing and capital challenges faced by the maritime industries, inter alia through benchmark analyses of the credit and financing schemes found in Denmark's neighbouring countries.

- The Government will focus on predictable and stable tax rules, inter alia through benchmark analyses.
- The business support system should be simplified for the benefit of the companies.
- Efforts should be made to ensure that international regulation is technology-neutral and that international regulation is implemented and enforced in an efficient manner globally.
- The possibility for developing and testing new enforcement technology in Denmark should be supported.
- The possibilities for promoting, inter alia, innovation and environmental considerations in connection with public procurement should be rendered visible.
- Efforts should be made to promote the development of a standard concept for island ferries. The project is expected to benefit the development of Danish positions of strength within maritime energy efficiency and climate and environmental solutions, including the export potential. This work is embedded with the Ferry Secretariat.
- Efforts should be made to ensure competitive framework conditions for decommissioning.
- On the basis of the recommendations made by the expert committee in the port area, the Government will present proposals for a revision of the act on ports to support, inter alia, fair and equal competition between public and private companies.
- Efforts should be made to ensure a well-functioning transport system for road, railroad, sea and air as well as better interaction between these modes of transport; inter alia, the possibilities of transferring more goods from road to sea should be examined.
- A cross-ministerial working group should be established, tasked with supporting efficient and smooth consideration of seafarers' requests.

The Maritime Denmark – A hub for knowledge and know-how

The Plan for Growth also focuses on retaining and future-proving the Danish maritime labour force, inter alia by ensuring that research and education match the needs of the industry now and in the future. The Plan for Growth contains the following initiatives:

- The Government will support that education and training programmes of relevance to the Danish Maritime Sector provide competences that match the industry's needs now and in the future.
- A pilot scheme should be launched for the education and training of seafarers for the domestic ferry sector.

- The possibility of creating more and more flexible work-experience places at sea should be discussed with the industry, for example on the basis of Danish Shipowners' draft for a guarantee for work-experience places, corresponding to 350 man years.
- The recruitment of masters and ship officers for the professional bachelor programmes should be increased. This means that the requirement will be annulled for a training agreement to have been agreed beforehand.
- Efforts are being made to sharpen the profile of the Danish Maritime Sector in order to attract talent, inter alia by supporting the Danish Maritime Sector's common recruitment campaign "World-Careers.dk".
- The extension of the work of the Contact Committee for Maritime Research with an annual discussion of central maritime research subjects should be supported.
- The Government will invest DKK 237 million in research in new technological possibilities, and DKK 282 million in research intended to create green growth. Innovation Fund Denmark is responsible for the distribution of the means on the basis of the FORSK25 catalogue and the agreement on the distribution of the 2018 research reserve.

The Maritime Denmark – a hub with global visions and attraction

Denmark has the preconditions not only for upholding Denmark's role as an important global maritime player, but also for extending this role. Consequently, the Government will strengthen Denmark's international profile and attraction as a global maritime power hub. Among the recommendations are the following:

- The global profiling of the Danish Maritime Sector should be strengthened through focused and ambitious efforts to promote Denmark as a global maritime power hub.
- An overall maritime marketing strategy should be drawn up; inter alia, a "maritime ambassador" scheme should be developed for the Government to draw on in its marketing efforts.
- The efforts made to establish one point-of-contact with the authorities for maritime companies should be continued, including the digitalisation of this.
- International cooperation with central maritime growth markets should be strengthened, inter alia by continuing the growth consultancy schemes in, for example, Ghana and China – in order to improve the export potential of Danish companies and to support global free trade.

- The availability of knowledge about internationalisation and export potentials to Danish maritime companies should be strengthened, inter alia through increased use of digital platforms and focused co-ordination in connection with delegation visits.
- In cooperation with Local Government Denmark and relevant industry organisations, focus should be on the potential for using publically owned ships as demonstration platforms and display windows in connection with, for example, export promotion and marketing campaigns.