

Feasibility study for a Maritime faculty, within the EIT.

A proposal for the next phase towards a Maritime faculty within the proposed European Institute of Technology (EIT) was commissioned by the Waterborne TP and the European Network of Maritime Clusters, and written by the consultant Policy Research Corporation. This proposal is based on the Terms of Reference "*Towards a Maritime Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) - European Institute of Technology.*" The first two steps have now been taken in the road map towards a Maritime KIC.

ECMAR submitted comments on the Terms of Reference, on behalf of its members, and most of our comments were used, some almost word for word.

The revised Terms of Reference and the Project proposal - Towards a Maritime KIC are to be found under interesting documents.

It is believed that funding for the in-depth study should be sought within the maritime and marine industry, governmental organisations and knowledge institutions. In this way a broad spectrum of stakeholders acknowledges the relevance and importance of a Maritime KIC and commits itself to the process. The in-depth study has to be finished no later than April 2009 in order to submit the proposal for the Maritime KIC on time. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the decision to proceed with the study is taken on a very short term, not later than August 2008.

Co-financing of the study by ECMAR will be difficult (at an average hour rate of €195), but could strengthen our position. A separate contribution from the larger members would be the best solution.

Any feedback about participation and partial funding of this project proposal would be welcome.

Tony Morrall Acting Director

8 July 2008