

EdEn's Reaction to the postponement of the adoption of the IMO Net-Zero Framework

On Friday, 17 October, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adjourned the Extraordinary Session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC ES.2), thereby postponing the adoption of the IMO Net-Zero Framework. This decision follows sustained pressure from certain Member States to oppose the Framework, resulting in the suspension of what could have been a landmark agreement for global maritime decarbonisation.

EdEn deeply regrets this outcome. Maritime transport must reduce its emissions, and only the IMO can provide a harmonised global framework to drive this transformation.

The proposal submitted for adoption by the Member States presented an opportunity to establish a clear, predictable and ambitious emissions reduction trajectory for the maritime sector. By harmonising international rules, it sought to create a level playing field for the industry and to de-risk investments in alternative fuels and clean technologies that are critical to achieving net-zero emissions.

Maritime decarbonisation must remain a priority

Representing over 80% of global merchandise trade by volume, shipping is a cornerstone of both the ocean-based and global economy. At a moment when international cooperation and regulatory clarity are essential, the decarbonisation of maritime transport must remain an urgent and collective priority, both to meet global climate objectives and to ensure the long-term competitiveness and resilience of the maritime industry.

The way forward: building a coherent framework

A coherent international regulatory framework with a defined emissions trajectory remains crucial to ensure progress, prevent regulatory overlap, and provide the predictability investors need to advance clean shipping.

EdEn therefore hopes that the coming year will lead to an agreement and reaffirms its support for the IMO's efforts to advance the adoption of a robust and credible Net-Zero Framework.

Through its platform, EdEn will continue to formulate and advance evidence-based policy recommendations that foster innovation, strengthen competitiveness, and accelerate the transition toward a sustainable maritime economy.

EdEn calls on the European Union to continue working on the development of a global framework, to align and adapt its own regulations accordingly and to translate its ambition into concrete measures and investments to strengthen Europe's strategic autonomy and foster the deployment of clean maritime technologies.

About Équilibre des Énergies (EdEn)

Founded in 2010 and chaired by former Minister Dominique Bussereau, Équilibre des Énergies (EdEn) brings together stakeholders from the energy, construction and mobility sectors to accelerate the decarbonisation of the economy.

More information: <https://www.equilibredesenergies.org>