



Costas Stamatou

Department of Merchant Shipping invites funding proposals under Motorways of the Sea initiative



November 02 2016 | Contributed by Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC

Shipping & Transport, Cyprus

The Department of Merchant Shipping recently invited owners and operators of ships flying the Cyprus flag to submit proposals for funding under the Motorways of the Sea initiative, which is part of the European Commission's Connecting Europe Facility.

Motorways of the Sea consist of short sea routes, ports, associated maritime infrastructure (including hinterland connections) and equipment that facilitate short sea shipping or sea-river services between maritime ports. The initiative aims to:

- promote environmentally friendly, viable, attractive and efficient sea-based transport links which are integrated into the overall transport chain; and
- remove bottlenecks in the EU transport system by making shipping a viable alternative to other overcrowded means of transport.

Funding is available for a variety of purposes, including:

- reducing emissions and converting to less polluting fuels;
- enhancing rail interoperability;
- improving cross-border sections;
- developing port infrastructure;
- establishing new sea-based transport services that are integrated into the logistics chain; and
- upgrading of existing services.

The Connecting Europe Facility programme will finance up to 30% of eligible costs of works and up to 50% of eligible costs of studies, including pilot activities. Up to €1.9 billion of funding will be available under the 2016 call for proposals, which opened on October 13 2016 and closes on February 7 2017. As Cyprus is eligible for funding under the EU Cohesion Fund, entities in Cyprus may access the entire budget. The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works – the Department of Merchant Shipping's parent ministry – will provide advice and assistance on applications.

For further information on this topic please contact Costas Stamatou at Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC by telephone (+357 25 110 000) or email (stamatou@neocleous.com). The Andreas Neocleous & Co LLC website can be accessed at www.neocleous.com.

The materials contained on this website are for general information purposes only and are subject to the disclaimer.

ILO is a premium online legal update service for major companies and law firms worldwide. In-house corporate counsel and other users of legal services, as well as law firm partners, qualify for a free subscription.