

Introductory Remarks as chair of the ASC

On behalf of the Atlantic Steering Committee we are pleased to be part of this interesting online workshop that will launch a cross-sectorial dialogue around the implementation Charter of the Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030' and its commitments and particularly the Atlantic- Arctic Lighthouse.

At the Atlantic Sea Basin, and within the Atlantic Strategy 2.0, we are currently advancing in this cross-sectorial dialogue and cooperation along the four main Pillars of Action which include Ports (as gateways and hubs for the blue economy); Blue Skills and Ocean Literacy; Marine Renewable Energy and Coastal resilience & Healthy Ocean.

We acknowledge the importance of cooperation within the Atlantic Sea Basin so as to achieve a sustainable blue economy and this is why the strategy has pursue several networking and best-practice exchanges so as to jointly advance in this objective.

In this regard, each Pillar has set-up a specific Task Force involving main 4helix players and has establish a roadmap of actions to be achieved in the short, medium and long term. Cooperation and cross-fertilization is also encouraged within these Pillars so as to avoid working in silos and advancing in common challenges and opportunities.

Just to pinpoint some of these Atlantic cooperation examples we would like to highlight the various National Events and Workshops being organized by the Atlantic Action Plan Assistance Mechanism, were Pillars are encouraged to jointly work together and discuss about challenges and opportunities along this cooperation. On the 26-27th of April we are organizing two of such joint-efforts along the topics of blue skills, ocean literacy and ports and on the 9-10th of May we are organizing a third one around marine renewable energies, healthy oceans and smart specialization strategies. You can find more information about these workshops at the Atlantic Strategy website.

All these efforts will, of course, also have the Mission objectives in mind and, especially, but not only, for Pillar IV on Coastal resilience and Healthy Oceans that aims to boost coastal resilience, restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems and habitats and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

This is why the Atlantic Steering Committee is pleased to be part of this process of jointly co-creating the Atlantic-Arctic Lighthouse Charter and we are willing to contribute to its implementation program in view of jointly delivering on the Mission objectives.

Thank you again for the invitation and we remain at your disposal for any further assistance.