



Atlantic Arc Commission

Marine Renewable Energies Working Group

8 March 2016 – Brussels

Discussion paper

The Atlantic Arc Commission's "Marine Renewable Energies" working group meeting has two main objectives: the first one is to present a state of the art of the development of marine renewable energy (MRE) in the Atlantic Regions; the second one is to identify the most important legal and/or financial issues the Atlantic Regions are facing in the development of MRE.

This discussion paper identifies some key questions that will be raised during point 5 ("Round table on the development of Marine Renewable Energy in the Atlantic Arc") of the meeting. Member Regions are kindly requested to read it and try to fill it in to fuel the debate.

I. Consultation launched by the European Commission on the New Renewable Energy Directive

The CPMR General Secretariat responded to this consultation, which deadline for submission was 10 February 2016. All the CPMR members were invited to send information to help draft the CPMR contribution. The final contribution, validated by the CRPM Political Bureau in Haarlem (NL) last 19 February 2016 as well as a supporting document, will be soon available on our website: www.arcatlantique.org

Special attention should be paid to the 7 questions taken from the consultation which are relevant with respect to the development of MRE. Namely: 3.1, 4, 6, 10, 14, 20, 23, 26 (cf. [Official Questionnaire of the EC Consultation](#)).

- How should we position ourselves with respect to this consultation?
- Is there anything you would like to add?

II. Consultation on draft strategic roadmap

The Ocean Energy Forum produced a draft [Strategic Roadmap](#) for the ocean energy sector, which was published in October 2015. We invited you to answer to this consultation in the invitation email we sent you on 5 February 2016.

- How should we position ourselves with respect to this roadmap?
- Is there anything you would like to add?

.../...

III. State of the art in the Atlantic Regions

- Information on the projects developed in your Region
- Evolution of the policies to support the development of MRE in your Region

IV. Common messages to pass to the European Commission

- **State aid system**

The aim is to determine whether the State aid system provides sufficient financial support to the expansion of this energy segment.

- **Coordination of calls for tenders at Member State level**

Several actors call for the harmonisation of calls for tenders at EU level, in particular with regard to the fixed offshore wind sector, in order to help companies having more visibility on the investments to be made in the long term and smooth the terms of reference.

- **Treatment of not interconnected areas**

This topic is related to the State aids. How to better help not interconnected areas such as islands or isolated territories? Making the tax system more secure or establishing a specific financial aid system are options that should be further explored.

- **Upstream risk elimination of the areas**

The main idea is to see how Member States can carry out preliminary studies on zones for which calls for tenders can be launched, at an early stage. This will help reducing the risks and will prevent several industrials from carrying out costly individual studies on the same zone.

- **Financial support to securing the grids**

Can the two following options help fostering the development of MRE?

- *The financing by Member States of the laying of cables*
- *Elaboration of a common long-term grid Security Plan in the Atlantic*