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Helsinki, Finland

Dear friends of the IMO,

It is a great honour to be nominated as candidate for the post of the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The nomination shows the commitment of Finland to the goals and work of the IMO and our high appreciation of the IMO as an organization.

The maritime sector and community are facing a rapidly changing operational environment. The green and digital transitions will bring about systemic change. Ensuring environmental, economic and social sustainability of shipping and taking advantage of rapid technological development will require new ways of thinking.

People will also be at the centre of seafaring in the future. We will need to ensure the availability of competent, skilled seafarers. We need to promote diversity and equality, including attracting more women to work in shipping.

The changes ahead will bring both new opportunities and challenges that we need to tackle together at the IMO.

I strongly support the mission of the IMO as the United Nations' specialized agency promoting safe, secure, environmentally sound, efficient and sustainable shipping through cooperation, as well as the IMO's work in supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

I am highly committed to bringing all my professional experience to the service of the IMO



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and its Member States. As Secretary-General, I would make it my personal priority that the Secretariat does its utmost with the Member States to ensure that the IMO remains the leading regulatory body in shipping. A global industry needs global action. Not only in decarbonizing shipping, but also in tackling ever-increasing cyber threats, changing trade patterns, future pandemics and other unforeseen disruptions from outside the shipping sector. In a world of complex and interlinked challenges, a broad understanding of

societal policies is needed to build context and understanding of different perspectives.

It has been my calling to serve in public administration to the best of my ability. In my work, I am committed to promoting good governance, trust, respect and inclusion. I want to promote transparency, openness, efficiency, and co-operation. Knowledge-based decision-making and data-driven solutions will be keys to success in the future.



Minna Kivimäki's Vision Statement:



Ensuring the IMO is fit for the future

Building on good governance, trust, inclusion and cooperation

Enhancing transparency and cost-efficiency

Strengthening knowledge-based decision-making and data-driven solutions

Contributing to high quality expertise with motivated and skilled people



Tackling climate change together

Tackling climate and environmental issues by working together

Ensuring safe, sustainable shipping. A global industry needs global action. Effective, swift measures are necessary to achieve our goals. This presents not only challenges, but also immense opportunities for green growth around the world.

Keeping everyone onboard and ensuring no one is left behind.



Keeping people at the core of change and solutions

Ensuring good, safe working conditions and addressing the shortage of seafarers. People are at the centre of seafaring, despite changes in technology.

Ensuring the availability of competent, skilled seafarers. This requires promoting diversity and equality, including attracting more women to work in shipping.



Making use of new technologies to improve safety and address global challenges

Finding solutions that work globally, through technological and social innovations

Improving maritime safety and security, emissions reductions and enabling better services through digitalization, automation and data-driven solutions.

I strongly believe in dialogue, cooperation and the inclusion of everyone in the process, and I want to bring people together to create ownership of issues and commitment to actions. In my various professional roles, I have discovered that my abilities to communicate, cooperate and to build excellent working relations have been important foundations for success.

It would be a great privilege to make use of all my experience and knowledge to further strengthen the IMO as an organization and its

role as the global standard-setting authority for safe, sustainable shipping. I am inspired and motivated to contribute towards making sure the IMO is fit for the future.

Sincerely yours,

Minna Kivimäki



Minna Kivimäki in brief:

Master of Laws Degree from the University of Helsinki with a specialization in International Law.

Extensive leadership and management skills gained through several leadership roles, serving currently as the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Communications, Finland. She is passionate about working with people. Her strengths as a leader include strong team-building capabilities, motivational and inspirational leadership and excellent communication skills.

Extensive experience of international negotiations and the ability to work in a result-oriented way, e.g. through working as a representative of Finland at various international fora. This includes as the Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland at the EU, and steering the work at the Council of the EU during the Finnish EU Presidencies in 2006 and 2019.

Long experience in shipping and the IMO. She has worked for several years on maritime policy and strategies, international maritime conventions, international maritime law and the Law of the Sea.

Extensive experience on transport policy in all transport modes including issues relating to ports, safety and security, environmental issues, logistics, passenger transport, transport infrastructure and labour questions in the transport sector. Her responsibilities have also covered digital transformation of society, digital connectivity, the data economy and cyber and information security.

Long career in government service, having worked in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU. She has a broad understanding of societal policies and questions from the whole of government perspective. In addition to transport and communications policy, her responsibilities at the EU have covered policy areas like industrial policy, energy and markets regulation, digitalization, RDI, space, environment and climate issues, fisheries, labour law, social questions, health, education and skills.