

# PRESS RELEASE

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## 17<sup>th</sup> AIVP World Conference Cities and Ports

In partnership with SAPT (Société d'aménagement de la zone portuaire de Tanger Ville) & Tanja Marina Bay

**Tangier, 11 - 13 May 2022**

**Wednesday 11 May 2022 opening of the 17th AIVP World Conference Cities and Ports on the theme "Inspiring Blue Futures", in Tangier, in partnership with SAPT (Société d'aménagement de la zone portuaire de Tanger Ville) & Tanja Marina Bay.**

With the concept of "**Blue Futures**", AIVP wants to highlight the importance of port cities in this mission and several subjects for the future of our societies, our economy and our environment. In our conference we are seeing how these Blue Futures will be characterized by innovative solutions for decarbonized logistic chains and port cities, building on alternative fuels and electrification of infrastructure, marine renewable energies, digitalization, or even carbon capture based on aquatic nature (the best carbon sinks are wetlands and the seabed). We are also addressing how Blue Futures will also require new approaches to restoration of natural habitats, sustainable coastal tourism, or food systems including aquaculture and sustainable fishing.

In Tangier AIVP members, port and urban actors, are sharing the new projects that are already implementing these blue economy fields. We are also learning how they are adapting the territories and infrastructure to climate change and training port city professionals that will work in new hubs focused on the Ocean's economy. We are discussing how to create and support sociocultural connections between the blue economy, the port and the inhabitants, and what governance model better answer this mission, counting with the citizens. We are also discovering what this Moroccan port city is doing to enhance its connection to the water, in the junction between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic. Protecting the planet also means protecting the oceans thanks to the action of port cities. As hubs of globalization, they have specific and effective levers for action, it is time to work together for this goal.

According to the United Nations, the Ocean Economy has a yearly turnover between USD 3 to 6 trillion. The environmental NGO WWF estimated the global ocean assets to be worth at least USD 24 trillion. Even if the precise figure might be difficult to calculate, it is undeniable that the blue economy has an immense value for our society, that for many, remains unknown. However, at the core of the blue economy are the oceans and bodies of water, of which the health of our planet greatly depends on, and its importance exceeds the potential economic benefits of the exploitation of its resources. Coastal regions are at the forefront of the protection of the oceans and the seas. Port Cities' reason of being is its connection to the seas and the oceans. Although obvious, we often

forget or undervalue this basic fact. This specific geographic location puts port cities in a privileged position to develop the blue economy.

It will be impossible to successfully quest the UN's sustainable development agenda if we ignore the protection of the oceans and are not capable of delineating strategies for a balanced use of its abundant resources. This mission and the development of the Blue Economy are transversal to the 10 goals of the AIVP Agenda 2030, for example in climate change adaptation, the energy transition, the protection of biodiversity, developing the sea culture, sustainable tourism, or appropriate food systems, among others. 2022 is a crucial year to impulse the blue economy and the protection of the oceans, as claimed by the international community. AIVP is fully committed with this effort, demonstrating the implications for port cities, as it was visible during the One Ocean Summit in February. Our conference in Tangier entitled "Inspiring Blue Futures", to be followed by the UN Ocean Conference in June, and the COP27 in November, is contributing to this global movement.

High-level speaker from all over the world are participating in this event :

- **Mohamed Ouanaya** (Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, SAPT)
- **Edouard Philippe** (President, AIVP - Mayor of the City of Le Havre, France - Former French Prime Minister)
- **Mounir Lymouri** (Mayor of Tangier)
- **Nizar Baraka** (Minister of Equipment and Water, Morocco)
- **Olivier Poivre d'Arvor** (Ambassador for the poles and maritime issues, Special Envoy of the Presidency of the Republic)
- **Mario Girard** (CEO, Port of Quebec)
- **Hervé Martel** (Chairman of the Executive Board, Port of Marseille)
- **Erdal Sabri Ergen** (Vice-Secretary General, Union For Mediterranean)
- **Reyer Will** (Project Manager of MAGPIE, Port of Rotterdam)
- **Mpilo Ngubane** (Head of Municipal Academy, City of Durban)
- **Alberto Cappato** (Director Innovation Development and Sustainability, Porto Antico di Genova)
- **Erdal Sabri Ergen** (Vice-Secretary General, Union For Mediterranean)
- **Angel Pulido** (General Manager, Port of Sevilla)
- **Miguel Castro** (Maritime Operations Manager, Port of Sines)
- **Ryan Bennett** (Senior Planning and Sustainability Manager, Port Authority of New South Wales)
- **Tommaso Spanevello** (Head of European Affairs, HAROPA PORT)
- **Franco Gandolfo** (General Manager, Port of Valparaíso)
- **Jesús Medina Blanco** (Chief Information & Innovation Officer, Port of Algeciras)
- **Tarik Dourasse** (Central Director and Major Pilot of Tanger Med)
- **Jean-Frédéric Laurent** (General Manager, Port of Bordeaux)
- **José Estors Carballo** (Fishery Officer, FAO)
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Picture of the opening session:



**Sanae El Amrani** – Director of the Ports and Maritime Public Domain, Moroccan Ministry of Equipment and Water

**Mohamed Ouanaya** – CEO of SAPT and SGPTV SA

**Omar Moro** - President of the Regional Council of Tangier Tétouan Al Hoceima Region

**Nizar Baraka** - Minister of Equipment and Water, Morocco

**Edouard Philippe** - President, AIVP – Mayor of the City of Le Havre, France

**Mohamed Mhidia** - Wali of the Region of Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceima and Gouvernor of the Prefecture of Tangier-Assilah, Morocco

**Mounir Lymouri** - President of the Communal Council of Tangier, Morocco

**Philippe Truquet** – French Consul General in Tangier, Morocco

**Mohamed El Hmidi** - President of the Prefectural Council of Tangier-Assilah, Morocco

**Mounir El Bouyousfi** - Director General of APDN, Morocco

Co-hosted by :



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- Centre Régional d'Investissement de la Région de Tanger - Tétouan - Al Hoceima <https://swll.to/6US98Nr>



### About AIVP :

AIVP is a non-governmental organisation that has been bringing together urban and port stakeholders and their partners from all over the world for over 30 years. Its aim is to improve relations between cities and ports through mutual cooperation, promoting more sustainable, more responsible, and more innovative urban, port, and economic development that puts citizens first. Today, AIVP has nearly 200 members, drawn from three groups: local communities and authorities, port authorities, and industry professionals (from the parapublic and/or private sectors).

- <https://www.aivp.org/>
- [Agenda 2030 de l'AIVP](#)
- [en savoir plus sur la conférence mondiale de l'AIVP](#)

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