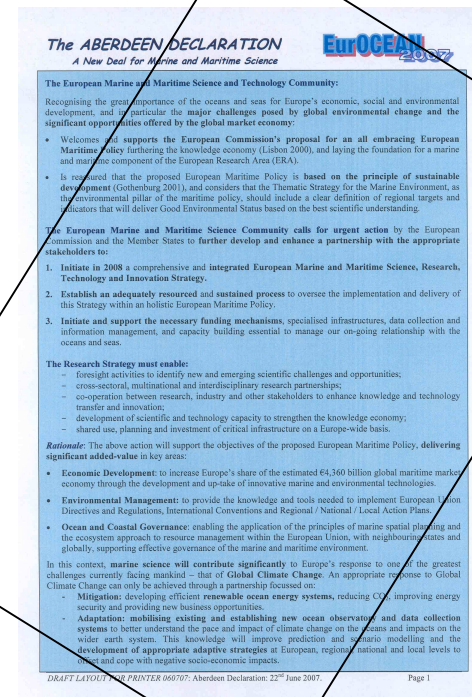


The Aberdeen Declaration

A New Deal for Marine & Maritime Sciences

Antoine Dosdat
Vice President
Marine Board



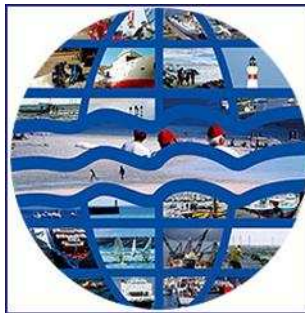
Presentation realised in association with the Marine Institute of Ireland

The Aberdeen Declaration is

- The European Marine & Maritime Science and Technology Community response to the EU Green Paper:

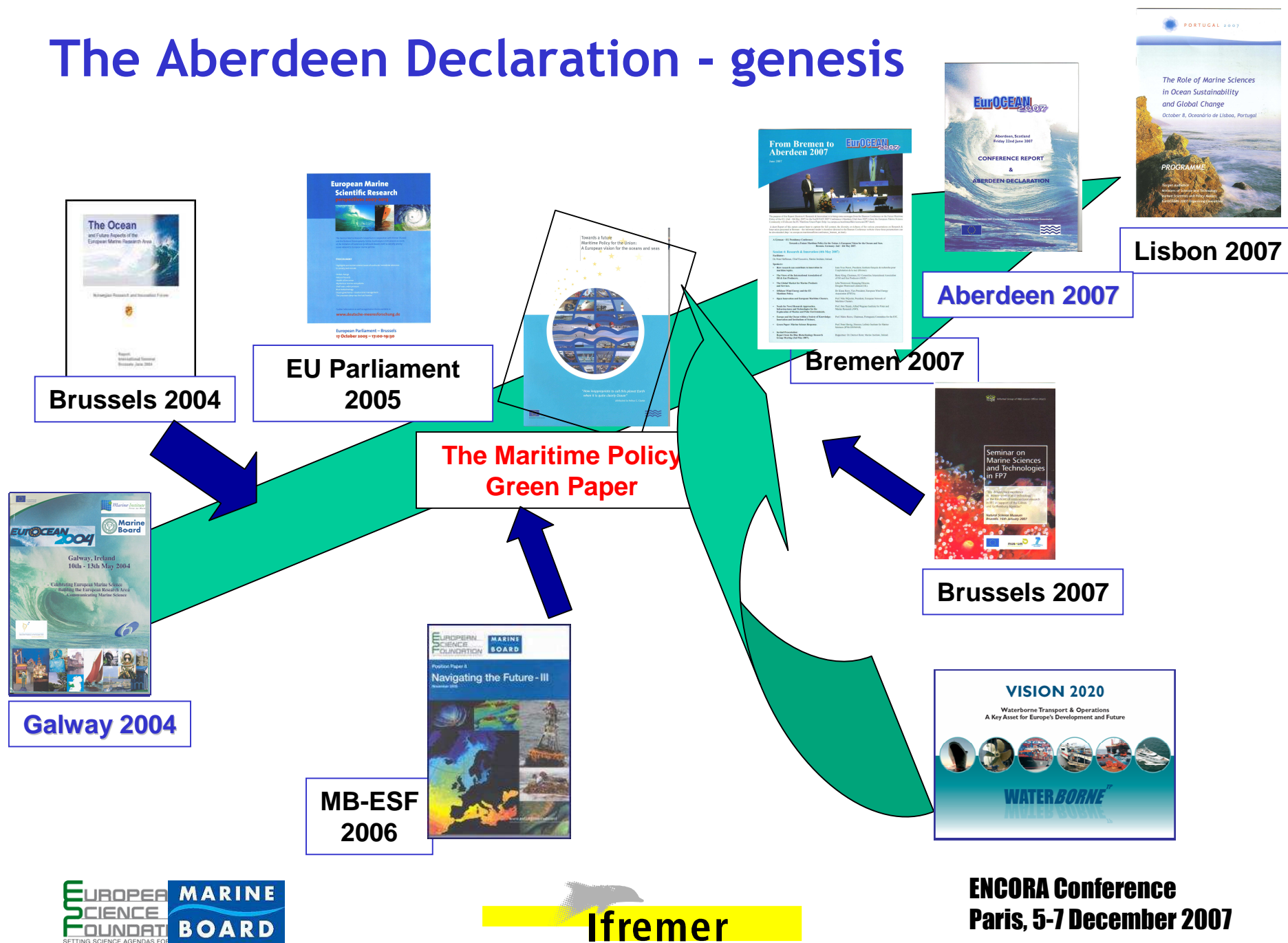
**“Towards a future Maritime Policy for the Union:
A European Vision for the Seas and Oceans”**

- And an endorsement of the vision proposed:



*an all-embracing maritime policy aimed at developing a dynamic maritime economy in harmony with the marine environment, **supported by sound marine scientific research and technology**, which allows human beings to continue to reap the rich harvest from the ocean in a sustainable manner.*

The Aberdeen Declaration - genesis



Represents a consensus view of some of the major components of the European Marine Science & Technology Community



- Intergovernmental organisations
- Regional Science & Technology Associations
- Industry Associations
- National Networks and Institutions

The Aberdeen Declaration seeks to mobilise science and technology to address:

- the significant opportunities offered by the global market economy.
- the major challenges posed by global climate change



The Aberdeen Declaration calls for:

1. a comprehensive **European Strategy for Marine and Maritime Science, Research, Technology and Innovation Strategy (2008)**;
2. the **establishment of an adequately resourced and sustained process** to oversee the implementation and delivery of this Strategy within an holistic European Maritime Policy;
3. **support for the necessary funding mechanisms**, specialised infrastructures, data collection and information management, and capacity building essential to manage our on-going relationship with the oceans and seas.



It identifies the components of a New Strategy

- Identification and prioritisation of challenges and opportunities for basic and applied research, including multi-disciplinary and embracing engineering legal and social and economic sciences.
- An integrated approach, linking sectoral and environmental policies, based on co-operation and partnership, using the EU instruments, to address key challenges at all scales.
- Supported by appropriate capacity building, infrastructures and share uses of infrastructures, and observation and data management.
- Strengthening the links between research and industry.
- A Regional Approach - A Global Perspective.
Think globally - act locally



What does the Action Plan on the Maritima Policy say

The Commission proposes

- a partnership for building a European Research Strategy
- Cross cutting issues in the FPs
- Marine/maritime S&T conference
- a European Marine Observation and Data Network; Atlas of the Seas
- Mapping of the sea
- Adaptation to coastal change in the coastal areas
- Encourage Maritime spatial planning and ICZM

The MB comments

- all relevant stakeholders should be associated
- ask for a mechanism enabling the Marine S&T be present in all the FP's themes
- Strong support to follow up the Aberdeen process
- OK if it addresses also the observation
- Not necessarily linked with EMOD Net
- Should address observation but also predictive capacity
- Research needed on model accuracy, integration of socio-economic and decision making processes

What does the Action Plan propose to do in 2008 with relevance with ENCORA

- promote the establishment of networks of best practices (e.g. between coastal regions and islands, between member states in spatial planning).
- propose a road map to further develop spatial planning in the MS, building on existing EU initiatives (i.e. ICZM recommendation, Marine Strategy Directive).
- propose a programme for the development of the mapping of the sea in Member States under the EMOD net initiative.
- develop guidelines for the development of ports.
- elaborate a Marine and Maritime Research Strategy.
- set a data base on projects supported by the EC in Maritime Regions, including outermost regions and islands.
- propose a Community strategy for disaster prevention and adaptation to climate change with a focus on coastal regions.
- launch a European Atlas of the Seas for a first publication in 2009.