



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF TRADE,
INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

Summary

Maritime Opportunities – Blue Growth for a Green Future

The Government's maritime strategy



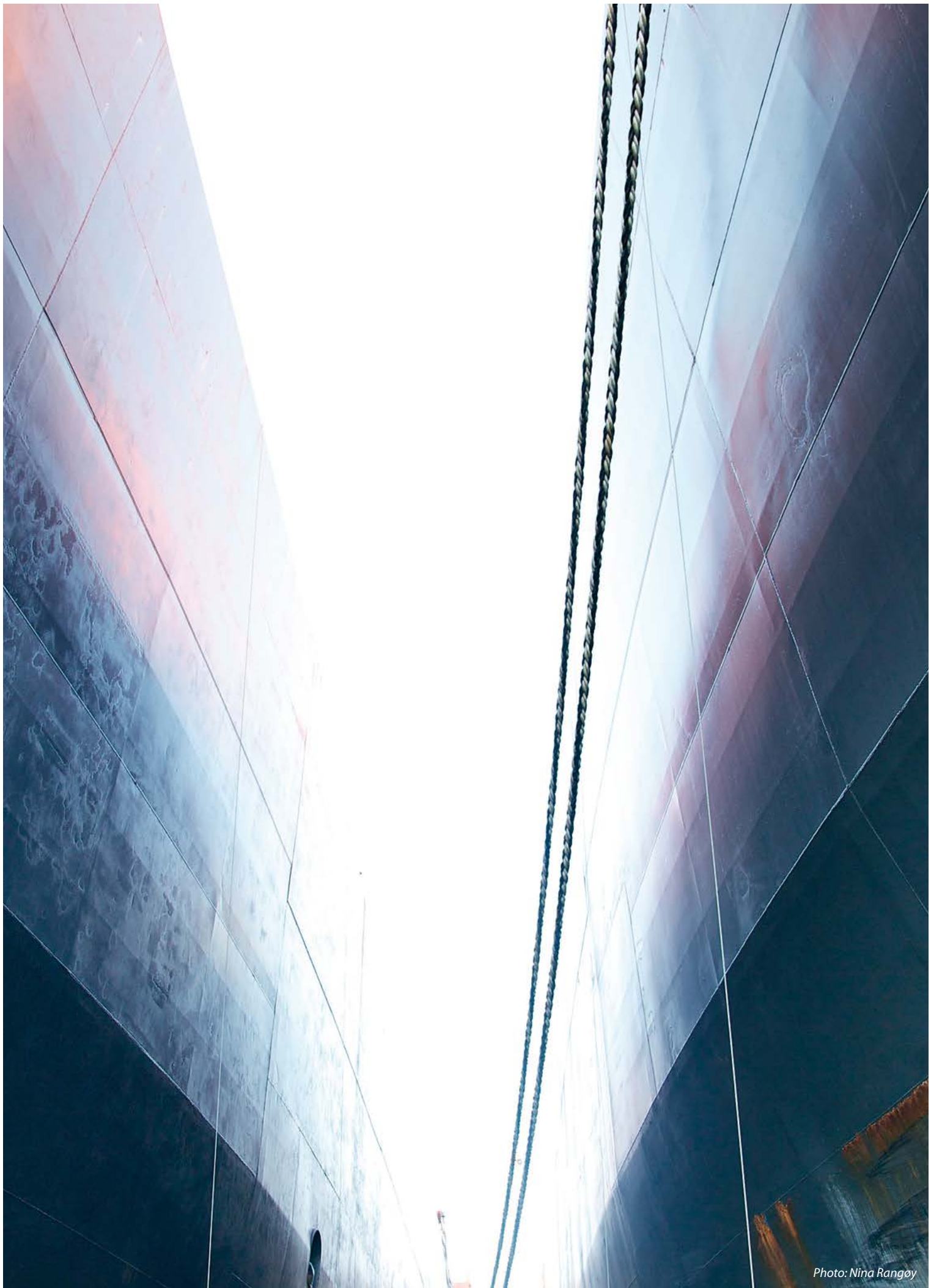


Photo: Nina Rangøy



BY THE MINISTER

The Government's commitment to the maritime industry is firmly rooted in the Sundvolden platform (the Government's political platform). The maritime industry is currently among Norway's most global, innovative and forward-looking industries. Its employment rate, value creation and spillover to other industries make it an important driving force in Norwegian business and industry. In order for the industry to further develop its value creation potential, it must be given the necessary political attention in order to continue its positive development.

The Government considers the maritime industry as a priority industry. We have a competitive shipping tax regime which we will continue. The net wage scheme is strengthened, and the Government has allocated more funds to research and development. At the same time we see that the number of vessels in the NIS register has dropped considerably, and that a dwindling portion of cargo along the coast is transported by Norwegian registered vessels, and that the offshore fleet is facing challenges by the drop in oil prices. Also, we still have an untapped potential both with regard to making shipping greener and by developing new and employ known technology across the marine environment. This is why the Government now presents a maritime strategy. Through this strategy the Government now wishes to establish a stable and forward-looking regulatory framework as a basis for future growth and value creation for the maritime industry in Norway.

It is important that terms and conditions are designed in such a way that they stimulate development and value creation in the maritime industry effectively. In order to contribute to this I invited representatives from the maritime industry to five thematic hearings in various parts of the country in the autumn of 2014.

I have also met with my Strategic council for maritime development (MARUT). Through these meetings the industry has contributed with knowledge and given valuable advice for the Government's work with this strategy.

The opportunities which the industry is facing, requires long-term efforts from the various players. Interaction between authorities, research, and commercial and industrial players in the industry is important in this context. The opportunities the maritime industry provides for value creation and industrial activity, can be developed primarily by the industry itself.

The main priorities of the Government's commitment to the maritime industry are: trade areas, environment, maritime administration, competence and education, research, development and innovation, international regulatory frameworks, blue growth, and the High North.

This strategy document contains a review of the authorities' efforts and the measures relevant to further development and value creation in the maritime industry – as well as specific actions to contribute to fulfilling our ambitions for the maritime industry in these areas.

I look forward to a continued good and close cooperation with the industry participants. Only together we can ensure that the maritime industry remains one of the most important sectors of Norwegian value creation and employment in the future!

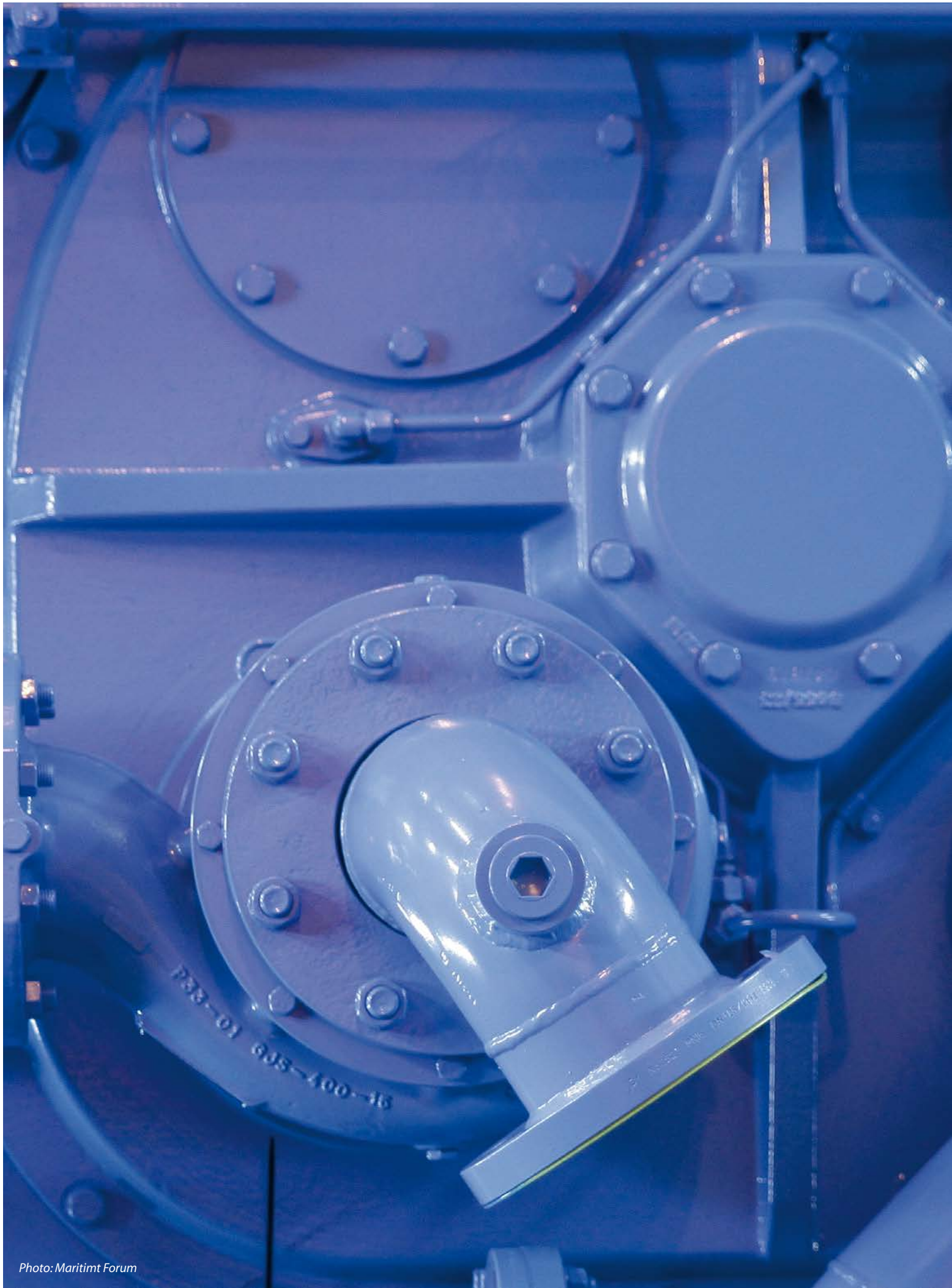


Photo: Maritim Forum

The background image is a blue-tinted photograph of industrial machinery. In the upper right, a circular component has a white label with black text that reads: "SEALING PLATE ONLY TO BE REMOVED BY ROLLS-RUYCE MARINE WARRANTY TECH. IF SEALS BREACHED". The rest of the image shows various pipes, bolts, and mechanical parts of a complex system.

SUMMARY



The Government's main goals for the maritime industry are sustainable growth and value creation



TRADE AREAS



ENVIRONMENT



MARITIME
ADMINISTRATION



COMPETENCE
AND EDUCATION

The Government's main goals for the maritime industry are sustainable growth and value creation. The maritime strategy presents the Government's policy to develop the maritime potential of the ocean industries.

In order to reach this goal, the Government will:

- ensure that Norway continues to be a leading maritime power with a large fleet registered in Norway
- stimulate green growth for the Norwegian maritime industry as well as the use of environmental friendly technology and alternative fuel for vessels
- ensure an efficient and customer oriented maritime administration and competitive ship's registers
- strengthen the Norwegian maritime industry's access to qualified personnel
- stimulate increased research, development, and innovation in order to strengthen the value creation and competitiveness of the maritime industry
- work for a harmonized global regulatory framework, open markets, high requirements for maritime safety, environment, and social standards
- develop a strong Norwegian ocean related cluster by stimulating increased interaction between the ocean industries
- ensure sustainable maritime value creation in the High North while taking into account issues such as increased activity, safety, and the environment



RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION



INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY
FRAMEWORKS



BLUE GROWTH



THE HIGH NORTH

Trade Area limitations for NIS vessels

The Government will ensure that Norway continues to be a leading maritime nation with a large fleet registered in Norway. In order to maintain and further develop the maritime industry, it is important to ensure a considerable and competitive fleet under Norwegian flag. The Government will continue the shipping tax regime, strengthen the net wage scheme, and ease the trade area limitations for NIS vessels.

Environment

The Government has ambitious environmental goals for the maritime industry. The potential for developing a green Norwegian shipping industry is great. A green shift will contribute to strengthening value creation in the industry and give a competitive edge.

Maritime Administration

In order for Norway to continue to be a leading maritime nation, it is important that we have a modern maritime administration offering good solutions for the maritime industry. The Government will continue its efforts to facilitate the development of a maritime administration providing digital services, accessibility, and service.

Competence and Education

Norway is a high-cost country, however, we are competitive on knowledge based products. The access to competence is therefore vital to maintaining and developing competitiveness and value creation in the maritime industry. In order for Norway to continue to be a world leading maritime nation the Government will strengthen maritime education and knowledge development.

Research, Development, and Innovation

Research, development, and innovation are necessary for developing the competitiveness and adaptability of the maritime industry. The public support system is to contribute to strengthening the knowledge base for maritime research, development, and innovation.

International Regulatory Frameworks

The Norwegian maritime industry is global and dependent on international success. The Government will work actively to ensure that the industry has a competitive regulatory framework and is given access to international markets.

Blue Growth

Norway has high competence and a strong professional environment in the ocean industries. However, the maritime, seafood, oil and gas industries can grow more by learning from each other. The Government will stimulate increased cooperation between the offshore industries.

The High North

Norway has long traditions of shipping in the High North, and the Norwegian maritime industry has extensive knowledge of the specific conditions and challenges prevailing in the Arctic. The Government will continue to further develop Norway's position as a leading arctic maritime nation.

The Government's strategy contains a number of measures to follow up on the Government's main priorities.

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