

■ ■ ■ Tuesday 27 January 2015

DUNKERQUE-PORT SIGNS PARTNERSHIP CHARTER FOR THE WELFARE OF SEAFARERS

On Monday 26 January 2015 Stéphane Raison, Chief Executive Officer of Dunkerque-Port, and Philippe Bertonèche, Chairman of the Seafarers' Welfare Council of the Port of Dunkirk, signed a Partnership Charter for the welfare of seafarers.

In Dunkirk the Seafarers' Welfare Council groups together four associations: La Mission de la Mer, Les Amis du Marin, the Seafarers' Centre and the Seamen's Club.

They work all year round to help seamen, visiting ships calling at the port, offering transport to the city and hostels, providing seamen with a place to relax and enabling them to communicate with their families, who are often very far away.

The purpose of this Charter is to set out, formally and permanently, the terms and conditions of the support which Dunkerque-Port gives to the associations for their action in favour of the seafarers calling at the Port of Dunkirk.

Besides the Port's contribution, the services and activities of these associations are funded by the subsidies of the local partners and by a system of voluntary contributions from operators in the maritime sector (shipowners and shipping agents).

These provisions are based on Convention No. 163 of the International Labour Organisation, ratified by France and incorporated in the Maritime Labour Convention.

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3^{ème} port français, le port de Dunkerque est réputé comme port de grands vracs destinés à ses nombreuses implantations industrielles. Il s'illustre également sur d'autres segments tels le roulier transmanche sur la Grande-Bretagne, les conteneurs, les fruits... Classé 7^{ème} port du Range nord européen qui s'étend du Havre à Hambourg, il est aussi le 1^{er} port français d'importation des minerais et de charbon ; 1^{er} port français pour l'importation de fruits en conteneurs ; 2nd port français pour les échanges avec la Grande-Bretagne.

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