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# NGO Shipbreaking Platform calls on Italian owners to stop beaching their toxic ships

16/11/2015

**Brussels, 16 November 2015** – The NGO Shipbreaking Platform, a global coalition of 19 environmental, human rights and labour rights organisations working to end polluting and dangerous shipbreaking, denounces Italian shipping companies Grimaldi Group, Ignazio Messina and Vittorio Bogazzi & Figli for their poor shipbreaking practices and calls upon them to take necessary actions to ensure the sustainable recycling of their end-of-life fleet as a matter of urgency. The Platform has sent letters to the Italian ship owners and the Italian Shipowners' Association (<http://www.shipbreaking-platform.org/library/platform-documents-letters-to-authorities/>), inviting them to initiate a constructive dialogue with the NGO.



(<http://www.adamcohn.com/>)

(Photo by Adam Cohn - [www.adamcohn.com](http://www.adamcohn.com) (<http://www.adamcohn.com/>) - Dawn at Alang Shipyards, 2015)

Whilst an increasing number of ship owners (<http://www.offthebeach.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/List-of-responsible-ship-owners.pdf>) do not want to be associated with dangerous and polluting practices, Grimaldi Group, Ignazio Messina and Vittorio Bogazzi & Figli have continued to sell their vessels to shipbreaking yards that are globally acknowledged not to respect basic human rights and environmental protection standards. According to data collected by the NGO Shipbreaking Platform, the three Italian companies have since 2009 sold fifty-four end-of-life ships to South Asian beaching yards for substandard breaking.

In the letter sent to the Italian ship owners, the Platform reminds the companies of their obligations under European waste laws as well as the standards for safe and green ship recycling as set in the new European Regulation on Ship Recycling. None of the South Asian beaching yards meets the requirements of the new EU Regulation on Ship Recycling. Based in the European Union, Grimaldi Group, Ignazio Messina and Vittorio Bogazzi & Figli are asked to adopt a ship recycling policy that is in line with EU standards and legislation.

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We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the European Commission.