In view of the forthcoming meeting of Heads of States and Governments on 19 June 2020 to focus on the EU recovery plan, the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions wishes to deliver the following messages to the European Council.

The CPMR:

• Particularly supports the ambition displayed in the proposals from the European Commission for a refreshed 2021–2027 EU budget and the timely new EU Recovery Instrument (Next Generation EU).

• Embraces the policy fundamentals of the Recovery Plan for a ‘fair and inclusive recovery for all’ and to build and to reinforce Europe’s autonomy in strategic value chains

• Welcomes the focus of the EU recovery plan to provide investments geared towards achieving a just and green transition.

• Expects regions to be fully involved to identify investments to be supported by the Recovery and Resilience Facility which will follow the European Semester framework.

• Welcomes that a significant share of the recovery instrument will be channelled through existing EU programmes and specifically Cohesion Policy and the additional EUR 55bn provided for REACT-EU.

• Regrets, however, the significant leeway for Member States on programming and funding allocation for REACT-EU, and fully expects regions to be associated as per the partnership and multilevel governance principles of Cohesion Policy.

• Urges Member States to support the European Commission proposals for a Recovery Instrument and a revised EU Budget for 2021 – 2027 at the European summit on 19 June, so that regional authorities can play their part in delivering the EU Recovery Plan starting from 1 January 2021.