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FINNISH HELLENIC CHAMBER of COMMERCE

ΕΛΛΗΝΟ ΦΙΝΛΑΝΔΙΚΟ ΕΜΠΟΡΙΚΟ ΕΠΙΜΕΛΗΤΗΡΙΟ - KREIKKALAIS SUOMALAINEN KAUPPAKAMARI

March 2022

- ♦ Sustainable Forests and Forestry in the 21st Century
- ♦ Helsinki Maritime Forum on Green Shipping



Forest Republic of Finland – Forest Relationship is Genuine and Unique for Finns.

Sustainable Forests and Forestry in the 21st Century, Best Practice from Finland

For decades, if not for centuries already, Finland has lived from its forests. Literally. Forests have provided protection, source of warmth and energy, income and a place to relax and explore for the Finns since times long gone already. This long tradition and the “forest culture” is deeply rooted in the Finnish society and the way in which forests are grown, protected and used for both economic and recreational purposes.

After the catastrophic wildfires of summer 2021 in Greece, we need examples of best practice, experience and models which could be used to regrow forests, protect them while benefiting from the sustainably and to create a wider understanding of the importance of forests, biodiversity and the “forest culture” in Greece.

Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce wants to support and assist the public debate on forests and sustainability in Greece by organizing this webinar to re-examine how we treat and use our forests in Greece. You are warmly welcome to take part!

Press release

Sustainable Forests and Forestry in the 21st Century – Best Practice from Finland

The Hellenic-Finnish Chamber of Commerce organized an online seminar to present and discuss best practices for sustainable forest management and environmentally friendly forestry on December 8, 2021, with the theme:

Speakers were:

Giorgos Livanios, Chairman, FHCC

Teemu Lehtinen, Secretary of the Board of Directors, FHCC

Dr. Dionysia Avgerinopoulou, Chair of the Environment Committee, Hellenic Parliament

Dr. Leena Leskinen, Forest Director, Finnish Forest Centre

Marko Mäki-Hakola, Forest Director, The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK)

Dr. Karoliina Niemi, Forest Director, Finnish Forest Industries Federation

THEME

For decades, if not for centuries already, Finland has lived from its forests. Literally. Forests have provided protection, source of warmth and energy, income and a place to relax and explore for the Finns since times long gone already. This long tradition and the “forest culture” is deeply rooted in the Finnish society and the way in which forests are grown, protected and used for both economic and recreational purposes.

After the catastrophic wildfires of summer 2021 in Greece, Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce decided to support reforestation process by bringing examples of best practice, experience and models which could be used to regrow forests, protect them while benefiting from them sustainably. There is a need to create a wider understanding of the importance of forests, biodiversity and the “forest culture” in Greece. And the FHCC wishes to contribute to this.

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Press Release

Dr Dionysia Avgerinopoulou: Current challenges and road towards wider international cooperation

Dr Avgerinopoulou emphasized the role of forests as carbon sinks and as a crucial part of the 2030 EU strategy. She noted that in the next 8 years, Greece aims at reducing its CO2 emissions by 55% and arrive to full carbon neutrality by 2050. Biodiversity offered by forests across the country is an extremely important factor, and well managed sustainable forests can also play a significant role in ecotourism.

Greece will mobilize 59bn euro in the next 5 years to develop a greener and more digital Greece 2.0. Considerable amounts of money will be targeted to reforestation of Parnitha mountain the surrounding areas which have an immediate positive impact on the air quality of the whole Attica region. The firefighting equipment and systems will undergo an important upgrade.

The collaboration between private and public sectors is very valuable in this as is the international collaboration, sharing of experiences and knowledge.

Dr Leena Leskinen: Forestry in Finland and lessons from wildfire projects

Finns have spent large amount of funds to develop remote sensing technologies and forest inventory to enable effective and rapid action in case of forest fires.

Metsaan.fi offers both forest owners as well as authorities a fully integrated central forest data system which allows the owner to see at a glance:

Mapping of his forest plots

Recommended forest management actions based on the data collected from his forests

Urgently advised pruning, thinning and cuttings

The database gives a full forest inventory with the purpose of maximizing the wood and minimising the waste. The more recent development and project which is already ongoing is to adapt these inventories and data to the climate change so that it take better into account extreme weather conditions, longer dry periods and strong rains.

Dr. Leskinen further highlighted how the Forest Center is using this system to develop high quality risk mapping for dryer months in order to be able to protect forests better from fires. These super detailed risk maps covering the whole country provide detailed information about the trees and the total wood mass, where the trees are located in the terrain, where the nearest water resources are and where does the well-maintained forest road network reach.

A lot of this technology is developed in collaboration with the private sector – after all over 60% of the forests are owned by Finnish families.

Marko Mäki-Hakola: Finnish Forest Care Association model and protection of forests by private owners

As most of the Finnish forests are privately held, the privately organized forest management plays a crucial role in ensuring the biodiversity, sustainability and growth of the forests. The Finnish Forest Owners are organized at the central and local levels for over 100 years already and they represent the owners interests at all levels of the government. The local Forest Management Associations serve the owners through their 1,500 staff and contractors.

The available centrally managed digital mapping and data management systems, the well-integrated own forest protection and sustainability programmes of forest owners (Helmi Habitats, Metso 2008-30) ensure that the owners are fully informed of what their abilities and opportunities regarding their forests at any given moment. Mr. Mäki-Hakola showed his own forest plots and the data the central forest management database gives him on the forests he owns.

Dr Karoliina Niemi, Finnish Forest Industry and sustainability

Just as the Forest Owners, the Forest Industry, which accounts for 20% of Finnish exports, is organized centrally since over 100 years. It represents the interests of over 70 businesses which sawmills and wood products to companies which produce pulp, paper, paperboard and board. The Finnish Forest industries provide employment for over 100,000 people and pay over 3.6bn taxes to the Finnish Government.

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Press Release

Dr. Niemi pointed out that the current forest industry megatrends still support growth in demand, and this demand is driven by more and more specialized, high quality technologically advanced wood products from wood containing fabrics to medical growth medium gels, specialized fire safe wooden construction materials and even battery chemicals.

The objective of forest industries in the 21st century should be ensure a circular wood based bioeconomy and resource efficiency using all parts of each individual tree and managing the forest succession of different growth stages in an eternal loop. Climate-friendly wood based products which take into account the biodiversity and sustainability requires a combination of measures in forestry: legislation, voluntary protection and restoration programmes (Helmi, Metso) as well as voluntary action such as forest certification and nature management projects.

Conclusion

Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce wants to support and assist the public debate on forests and sustainability in Greece by organizing this webinar to re-examine how we treat and use our forests in Greece. We are already in process of developing further actions with the Greek authorities and will be happy to provide you with any further information you may require.

For further information:

Teemu Lehtinen, teemu@teemulehtinen.com, Tel. 6943 29 95 38

About Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

The FINNISH HELLENIC CHAMBER of COMMERCE was established in 1995 with the aim to develop and promote trade and business relations between Finland and Greece. The promotion of innovation, high-tech and clean technologies, environmental technologies, energy, IT technologies etc. is a top priority for our Chamber, as Finland is in a leading positions in many of these sectors worldwide.

The Chamber provides information, special opinions, studies and market surveys, information on the financial situation in Greece and Finland, the terms and conditions for the development of commercial and economic relations.

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Helsinki Maritime Forum

"Green Shipping

Moving fast towards a smart and sustainable future"

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Chamber of Commerce

SAINT THOMAS
POLYTECHNIC
SINGAPORE

Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce & St Thomas Polytechnic:

21 March 2022, Oodi Central Library, Helsinki, Finland

PRESS RELEASE

New opportunities for cooperation

The first Helsinki Maritime Forum was organised by the Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and St Thomas Polytechnic RC, Singapore in Helsinki, Finland, on 21 March 2022. The live event at the Oodi Central Library of Helsinki gathered together stakeholders from the government, shipping community and business alike.

Said **Mr Teemu Lehtinen**, Secretary General of the FHCC after the conference: "As the speakers of our forum pointed out, despite the apparent physical distance between the two countries, there are great opportunities for cooperation in Green Shipping between these two seafaring nations. Finns have the early adopter knowhow and experience in moving towards lower emissions fuels. Greeks have the world's third largest fleet. Combining these two, there is an extraordinary opportunity of adopting cleaner technologies faster and more efficiently."

Mr Eero Hokkanen, Ministerial Adviser at the Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications, highlighted the decarbonisation challenges of shipping in Europe's northernmost seas under harsh and unpredictable conditions. Mr Hokkanen emphasised the ambitious national targets of Finland and how this has led to cutting edge automation and digitalisation of shipping solutions which could be put to use by the Greek shipowners.

Mrs Päivi Wood, Senior Adviser on Transport Policy at the Central Chamber of Commerce of Finland, spoke about the impact of greener transport policies and green shipping on Europe's competitiveness and how this is going to remain a challenge for the foreseeable future. She noted that there is a possibility of regional Green Shipping policies to emerge unless the International Maritime Organisation moves quickly towards uniform solutions. Such regional arrangements will further complicate the market conditions in global shipping.

Captain Class A Spyros Kotzias, LNG/C Master Mariner, representing the St Thomas Polytechnic, described some of the practical challenges large global shipping companies are facing with the new requirements for low sulphur fuels and how most shipowners are still assessing their options case by case. The seismic shifts in global shipping due to Covid-19 and now the Ukrainian war and increased fuel costs have only made all these issues more apparent and urgent to tackle.

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Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce & St Thomas Polytechnic: Helsinki Maritime Forum on Green Shipping,

21 March 2022, Oodi Central Library, Helsinki, Finland

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Mr Markos Diamantides, Purchase Director of Arkas S.A., provided his views on the Environmental Management Systems of shipping companies. According to Diamantides, training, both for the seafarers and equally, if not more, for on shore personnel is crucial for the success of moving towards greener shipping solutions.

For more information: **Teemu Lehtinen, FHCC, +30 6943 29 95 38**

Isidoros Pachoundakis, St Thomas Polytechnic, +30 6973 45 83 33

About the Finnish-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce: FHCC aims to develop and promote business relations between Finland and Greece. Our Chamber acts as a channel for the establishment of business relations between individuals and/or companies from the two countries, and provides its members with information on the Finnish and Greek economies, market analysis and studies and research. FHCC actively participates in public debate in Greece to improve the business environment and promotes Finnish investment and business community through meetings and events with stakeholders and decision makers in Greece.

About the St Thomas Polytechnic RC, Singapore: St Thomas Polytechnic offers professional, scientific and research programmes and life-long learning programmes which meet the need of the global shipping industry for integrated and optimum educational services. We are a broad-based, research-intensive institution, open to all who want to benefit from our offer. St Thomas Polytechnic delivers excellent interdisciplinary research, experiential education and civic engagement.

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Helsinki Maritime Forum



Embassy of Finland, Athens



Jari Gustafsson
Ambassador

As an element of the Foreign Service, the network of Finnish Diplomatic Missions plays a central role in the development of a safe and predictable tomorrow for every Finnish citizen. Finnish Diplomatic Missions, established in various parts of the world, provide a wide range of services for Finns and the Finnish society.

The consular services include providing passports and notary services, visas for foreigners travelling to Finland, and assistance to Finnish citizens in distress. In addition to the Embassy of Finland in Athens, Finland has Honorary Consuls based in 7 other cities in Greece.

Besides Greece Albania is also a part of the Embassy's territory.

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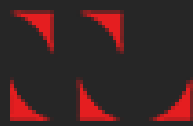
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ΠΑΡΟΧΗ ΝΟΜΙΚΩΝ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΩΝ

Το Ελληνο-Φιλανδικό Επιμελητήριο βρίσκεται κοντά στα μέλη του, στηρίζοντάς τους σε κάθε βήμα των δραστηριοτήτων τους, διατηρώντας αποκλειστική συνεργασία για νομικά ζητήματα με τη **"Kremalis-Law Firm"**.

Η **"Κρεμαλής-Δικηγορική Εταιρεία"**, αποκλειστικό μέλος του διεθνούς δικτύου **Ius Laboris** για την Ελλάδα, με μακροχρόνια διεθνή νομική δραστηριότητα, με διακρίσεις από διεθνείς νομικούς οδηγούς, όπως από τους **Legal 500, Chambers & Partners** και **Who's Who Legal**, εγγυάται την ασφαλή διεκπεραίωση νομικών υποθέσεων και παροχή νομικών συμβουλών για όλους τους κλάδους των Επιχειρήσεων. Παρέχει εμπειρία, γνώση και αποτελεσματικότητα στους τομείς των επενδύσεων, των διεθνών συμβάσεων και στην ολοκλήρωση νομικών ενεργειών ενώπιον των αρμοδίων κατά περίπτωση φορέων της Ελλάδας και του εξωτερικού.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες επικοινωνήστε μαζί τους στο **+30 210 6431387** ή επισκεφτείτε την ιστοσελίδα τους **www.kremalis.gr**

PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES

The Hellenic-Finnish Chamber is close to its members, supporting them at every step of their activities, maintaining exclusive cooperation on legal issues with **"Kremalis-Law Firm"**.

"Kremalis-Law Firm" as an exclusive member of the international **Ius Laboris** network for Greece, with long-standing International legal activity, with distinctions from international legal guides such as **Legal 500, Chambers & Partners** and **Who's Who Legal**, guarantees safe handling legal affairs and legal advice for all Business sectors. It provides experience, knowledge and effectiveness in the fields of investment, international conventions and the completion of legal actions before the competent bodies of Greece and abroad.

For more information contact them at **+30 210 6431387** or visit their website **www.kremalis.gr**





Finnish Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

ΕΛΛΗΝΟ ΦΙΝΛΑΝΔΙΚΟ ΕΠΙΜΕΛΗΤΗΡΙΟ - KREIKKALAIS SUOMALAINEN KAUPPAKAMARI

Το Επιμελητήριο, σας δίνει τη δυνατότητα να γνωρίσετε ή και να επενδύσετε σε ότι πιο νέο υπάρχει στην υψηλή και καθαρή τεχνολογία, στην καινοτομία, κυκλική οικονομία, στην ενέργεια και στις ανανεώσιμες πηγές ενέργειας, στην έρευνα & ανάπτυξη ακόμη και στην εκπαίδευση.

Το Επιμελητήριο μας μπορεί να σας βοηθήσει να βρείτε συνεργάτες στην Φινλανδία, να βρείτε επενδυτικές ευκαιρίες, νέα καινοτόμα προϊόντα και αγορές για τα προϊόντα σας.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες στο:

Τηλ. : 210 9244368 - e-mail : info@fhcc.gr - www.fhcc.gr

The Chamber gives you the possibility to find out or invest in the newest in high and clean technology, innovation, cyclical economy, energy and renewable energy, research & development, and even education.

Our Chamber can help you find partners in Finland, find investment opportunities, new innovative products, and markets for your products.

For more information on: Tel. : 210 9244368 - e-mail: info@fhcc.gr - www.fhcc.gr



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leaving behind islands such as Capri.*



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On the island of the Winds the uniqueness lies in the fact that it meets all the requirements. On the one hand intense, bright and cosmopolitan life but on the other Mykonos is very picturesque, with cobbled alleys, whitewashed houses, chapels and windmills, which exude peace and tranquility.