



Press Release

Rome, Italy, May 25th, 2023

AERO – OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION

PRESENTATION TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY SECURITY, Mr. GILBERTO PICHETTO FRATIN.

AERO, the Offshore Renewable Energy Association, has been presented today in Rome. Chaired by Fulvio Mamone Capria, represents 13 major founding companies engaged in the development of renewable energies, supply chain services and maritime and port logistics activities in Italy, as Acciona Energia, Agnes, BayWa r.e. Progetti, BlueFloat Energy, Fred Olsen Renewables, Galileo, Gruppo Hope, Italian Shipping & Logistics Agency (ISLA), M.S.C. Sicilia, Renantis, Repower Wind Offshore, Saipem and Tozzi Green.

An interactive and constructive exchange engaged the event on marine renewable energies highlighting resulting opportunities for Italy: 8.5 GW by 2030 would guarantee a production of 25.5 TWh per year, which would amount to 7% of Italy's national need for electricity. At the same time, it would prevent almost 13,000 tons of CO2 from being emitted or 2.2 MTEP from being consumed while simultaneously facilitating the creation 145,000 new jobs and generating investments to roughly 25 billion Euro.

„With more than 8,300 kilometres of coastline, an extensive network of ports and its central location in the Mediterranean Sea basin, Italy can and must play the leading role in promoting and developing the offshore renewable energy industry. We aim to create new industrial jobs and to generate infrastructural investment opportunities in port areas as well as to develop a new industrial supply chain in Italy that preserves the environment and involves local communities. To achieve this, we count on the Italian government to draw up a maritime area management plan, to agree on Exclusive Economic Zones with neighbouring countries and to plan suitable infrastructural investments in strategic port areas “says AERO president Mr. Mamone Capria.

"Green sources are not only a response to the need to fight climate change, but also to issues related to energy security, the creation of professional skills and know-how that will be increasingly required with the ecological transition - underlined the Minister of the Environment and Energy Security Pichetto Fratin - The task of the Ministry is to speed up, for the parts of our competence, the authorization procedures to guarantee certain times to the companies that invest. Our goal is to exceed, starting from 2023, the 10 Gigawatts of authorized and installed plants, to produce two-thirds of our energy from renewable sources by 2030. For an Italy that is increasingly green, clean, and free from suffocating bureaucratic constraints", concluded the minister.

The presentation of AERO was ensued by a discussion with representatives of the Italian government, various politicians, representatives of national and local institutions, of the financial sector, the energy and logistics industry, environmental NGOs, and the fishing industry.

The event opened with greetings from IRENA Director General, Francesco La Camera, who joined via video call. He stated that „in 2022 already 35 GW out of 295 GW of newly installed renewable energy capacity in EU will be produced by wind turbines located offshore. However, the offshore capacity will have to be



tripled in a joint effort to meet the Paris 2030 goals. “ WindEurope CEO, Giles Dickson, addressed a convinced support for association’s activities, and from WindEurope analyst, Giuseppe Costanzo, an appeal to the government to close as soon as possible the Fer2 decree and begin works for next Fer3: "It is a necessary objective – he said – to reach about 9 GW to be installed. It is necessary to intervene on the authorization procedures: just think that in Taranto it took 14 years to finish the first wind farm at sea, the Beleolico. It's a timeline we can't afford."

This was followed by a round table with the President of VIA VAS e PNRR PNIEC Commission, Massimiliano Atelli, the head of climate and ecological conversion of the Democratic Party, Annalisa Corrado, the vice president of the Anton Dohrn station, Silvio Greco, addressing the various aspects related to the importance of offshore wind development and the needs to create a synergy between private and public to promote the contribution of offshore renewable energy in Italian electricity production and, to communicate to citizens and associations the potential of these infrastructures also in terms of employment of specialized jobs and protection of the marine environment. Prof. Greco, in an impassioned speech, further illustrated "the current scenario of some of our seas, where biodiversity suffers from pollution, maritime trafficking and illegal fishing, and the prospects for the creation of huge marine areas, where offshore wind farms will be built, intended for the reproduction and protection of marine species".