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CONTACT: Martyn Griffiths, +32 (0)479 97 21 56, mgriffiths@cruising.org

Cruise Lines International Association holds high-level workshop on port infrastructure during European Shipping Week

(**BRUSSELS**, 28 February 2016) – Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) today hosted along with the Maltese Presidency of the EU Council an innovative workshop discuss how improved port and destination infrastructure can help grow cruising in Europe

The workshop entitled "***Growing European cruising: improving infrastructure adequacy for a sustainable and competitive maritime transport***" brought together over 90 decision makers, stakeholders as well as key players from cruise lines, ports and destinations to discuss the infrastructural challenges that the maritime community

faces, particularly in terms of land connectivity, sustainability and the environment.

During the Workshop building a sustainable maritime economy with both regulatory and legislative challenges was discussed and CLIA calls on the European authorities to work with the cruise industry moving forward.

The second half of the workshop focussed on operational challenges the cruise industry faces where the ever changing technical and logistical situation makes difficulties for effective port operations.

Commenting on the discussions and the outcomes of the workshop, Tom Fecke Secretary General of CLIA Europe stated: *"Today has seen a great sharing of expertise and knowledge with the sole purpose of addressing the challenges the cruise industry faces today in Europe. We hope the decision makers present as well as our key stakeholders will take away the learnings from today and work with us to provide effective solutions to the challenges we face."*

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. Full details of the event and its agenda, and speakers can be found [here](#).

2. **About Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) – One Industry, One Voice** Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) is the world's largest cruise industry trade association, providing a unified voice and leading authority of the global cruise community. The association has 15 offices globally with representation in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australasia. CLIA supports policies and practices that foster a safe, secure, healthy and sustainable cruise ship environment for the more than 23 million passengers who cruise annually and is dedicated to promote the cruise travel experience. Members are comprised of the world's most prestigious ocean, river and specialty cruise lines; a highly trained and certified travel agent community; and cruise line suppliers and partners, including ports and destinations, ship development, suppliers and business services. The organisation's mission is to be the unified global organisation that helps its members succeed by advocating, educating and promoting for the common interests of the cruise community. For more information, visit www.cruising.org or follow Cruise Lines International Association on CLIA Facebook and Twitter pages (@CLIAGlobal and @CLIAEurope).