

# THE NORWEGIAN CRUISE CONFERENCE 2026



**Thursday January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Registration**

**08:00 – 09:00**

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## **INTRODUCTIONS**

**09:00 – 09:10 | Welcome**

*Moderator:* Anette Bonnevie Wollebæk  
The Norwegian Coastal Administration

**09:10 – 09:40 | Updates from the Norwegian Government**

Director General Einar Vik Arset, The Norwegian Coastal Administration  
Director General Alf Tore Sørheim, The Norwegian Maritime Authority

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## PART 1: ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENTS

### **09:40 – 10:00 | Perspectives on environmental development, challenges and preparedness from CLIA**

Hans Chen Braas, Regional Director for the Nordics and Baltics, CLIA Europe  
(Cruise Lines International Association)

### **10:00 – 10:15 | World heritage fjords and zero emission legislation**

Henrikke Roald, Assistant Director General, Department of Legislation and Contracts,  
The Norwegian Maritime Authority

### **10:15 – 10:45 | Coffee break**

### **10:45 – 11:05 | How ports and destinations are preparing for zero-emission requirements**

Monica Berstad, Managing Director, Cruise Norway AS

### **11:05 – 11:25 | Affected by zero-emission requirements. What now?**

Rita Berstad Maraak, Port Director, Stranda Port Authorities

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## PART 2: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

### **11:25 – 11:45 | Navigating safety through collaboration**

Frigg Jørgensen, Executive Director, AECO – Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators

### **11:45 – 12:05 | Port Operations and Emergency Preparedness**

Ian Meachem, Head of Technical Port Operations, Global Port Operations Department, MSC  
Cruises

### **12:05 – 12:25 | Reducing operational risk during coastal and fjord navigation**

Captain Marcin Banach, Carnival Corp & plc

### **12:25 – 13:25 | Lunch**

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## PART 3: MARITIME EMERGENCY RESOURCES

### **13:25 – 13:45 | Keeping Ships Safe: Norway's emergency towing services and IMO regulations**

Kjetil Aasebø, Head of Department for Operation and Coordination,  
The Norwegian Coastal Administration

### **13:45 – 14:05 | Inside Norway's maritime fire & rescue response: The RITS Task Force Approach**

Sindre Egeness, Fire Chief, Maritime rescue operations with special fire brigade teams (RITS)

### **14:05 – 14:25 | Search and rescue preparedness in Norway – Perspectives from the JRCC**

Andreas Ingsøy, Rescue Coordinator, Norwegian Search and Rescue Agency (HRS)

### **14:25 – 14:45 | Fire and rescue-Maritime incident response groups in Norway**

Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection, Head of Section, Ann Christin Rognmo Olsen, DSB

### **14:45 – 15:00 | Pilot operations status**

Pilot Director Erik Blom, The Norwegian Coastal Administration

### **15:00 – 15:30 | Coffee break**

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## PART 4: IN REAL LIFE

### **15:30 – 15:50 | Pilot operations challenges**

Maritime Pilot Geir Pettersen, The Norwegian Coastal Administration

### **15:50 – 16:10 | Wind restrictions and enforcement**

Trond Langemyr, Vessel Traffic Operator, Vardø Vessel Traffic Service (VTS)

### **16:10 – 16:40 | What would you do? A tabletop exercise on safety, security and preparedness**

A mix of relevant contributors present on stage. Discussions where the floor is also open.  
Led by Kjetil Aasebø from the Norwegian Coastal Administration

### **16:40 – 17:00 | Summary remarks**

Arve Dimmen, Director of Navigation Technology and Maritime Services,  
The Norwegian Coastal Administration

### **17:00 | End**

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## Conference Dinner

**19:00**

We wish you a warm welcome to the Conference Dinner at **Thon Hotel Ålesund**  
*(Remember to register)*