Hamburg/New York/Taipei/Tokyo, 10 February 2023

WFO releases White Paper *Onsite Major Component Replacement Technologies for Floating Offshore Wind*

- WFO's Floating Offshore Wind Committee (FOWC) releases its **fourth publication**
- FOWC's O&M Subcommittee creates a **high-level classification** of onsite floating wind heavy maintenance concept types under development
- While the base case for floating wind maintenance is tow-to-port, it may not be feasible for certain **commercial-scale floating wind farms in the future**
- This white paper aims to provide a foundational understanding of **floating wind O&M trends, challenges, and solutions** amidst rapid industry activity, and with that inform the decision processes of key stakeholders in the field

WORLD FORUM OFFSHORE WIND (WFO) published its White Paper *Onsite Major Component Replacement Technologies for Floating Offshore Wind*. The paper is the result of one year's worth of monthly discussions between participating WFO members during meetings and interviews of WFO's Floating Offshore Wind Committee on the topic of floating wind onsite major component replacement.

The offshore wind installation and maintenance market is changing to keep up with the progress of the industry. Bigger turbines, more distant wind farm sites and floating foundations require new equipment and approaches. Given available technology, tow-to-port is treated as the base for floating wind heavy maintenance. However, this may not be a feasible approach for certain commercial-scale floating wind projects, which is why new solutions for onsite maintenance are emerging.

The paper creates a high-level comparative assessment between two main assigned crane families: add-on cranes and vessel cranes. Within the former, there is a further distinction between tower-based add-on cranes and platform-based add-on cranes. These solutions have the potential to reduce repair time and downtime as well as eliminate the need for disconnection of the FOWT; however, technology track record, cost and overarching floating wind market uncertainties are key challenges for new technologies to reach the market in the next decade. At the moment, heavy maintenance concept providers are making strategic decisions based on stakeholder priorities, which are discussed in the White Paper.

The findings from this work feed into the wider discussions of WFO's Floating Offshore Wind Committee (FOWC), where the insurability and bankability perspective reflects on the challenges of floating wind and the new technologies that aim to solve them. These cross-

discipline conversations remind us of the need to balance cost reductions and safety measures to preserve the risk perception of floating wind technologies, especially for the first commercial-scale projects.

Ilmas Bayati, Chairman O&M Subcommittee, PEAK Wind:

"This White Paper will certainly represent a reference for the industry. WFO's O&M Subcommittee delivered a comprehensive and independent analysis of game-changing innovations."

Gunnar Herzig, Managing Director, World Forum Offshore Wind (WFO):

"Our second O&M White Paper underlines WFO's role as global offshore wind business platform that connects the industry, generates new insights and promotes offshore wind energy worldwide."

All information can be openly accessed on the WFO **website: www.wfo-global.org**

About WFO:

WORLD FORUM OFFSHORE WIND (WFO) is the world's only organisation 100% dedicated to fostering the global growth of offshore wind energy. WFO's international members represent the complete offshore wind value chain including developers, manufacturers, service firms and other organisations. WFO is registered as a non-profit association (e.V.) in Germany with offices in Hamburg, New York, Taipei, and Tokyo. WFO's unique profile facilitates access to governmental and international forums in order to open new markets and to advocate for global offshore wind growth.

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