14 November 2012 - From 5-

7 November, representatives from most of the 17 member organisations of the NGO Shipbreaking Platform gathered in Brussels for their 2012 annual general meeting. Next to addressing organizational issues and discussing future projects, members from Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, the United States, Norway, the Netherlands and Belgium also grasped the opportunity on Wednesday 7 November to meet with the environmental attachés of the permanent representations to the EU. During a fruitful discussion, the attachés and the members of the Platform exchanged views on the proposal for a regulation on ship recycling presented by the European Commission last March, highlighting the issue of beaching in South Asian shipbreaking yards. The evening before, on 6 November, the Platform co-organised an event at the European Parliament with Carl Schlyter MEP, the rapporteur to the Parliament’s Environment Committee (ENVI) on the Commission proposal. The event featured a panel discussion including Karl Falkenberg, Director General of DG Environment; Ludwig Krämer, environmental lawyer at ClientEarth; Jim Puckett, Executive Director of Basel Action Network (BAN); and Rizwana Hasan, Chief Executive of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) and advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. See here for more information about the panel discussion. (from left to right: Satish Sinha (Toxics Link, India) - Marietta Harjono (Greenpeace Netherlands) - Omar Faruq (OSHE Foundation, Bangladesh) - Colby Self (BAN, USA) - Abu Eusuf Mollah (BILS, Bangladesh) - Jim Puckett (BAN, USA) - Kanwar Iqbal (SDPI, Pakistan) - Svend Soeyland (Bellona, Norway) - (Patrizia Heidegger - Platform Secretariat, Belgium) - Merijn Hougée (North Sea Foundation, Netherlands) - Muhammed Ali (Shahin) (YPSA, Bangladesh) - Rizwana Hasan (BELA, Bangladesh) - Helen Périvier (President of the Board of the NGO Shipbreaking Platform)