



Maersk quits board of lobby group ICS over climate concerns

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Denmark-based shipper AP Moller-Maersk has withdrawn its board member from industry organization International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), partly because of the trade association's stance on climate change, according to the company's website.

Maersk had been part of ICS's board for around a decade, but now Maersk executive and board member Henriette Hallberg Thygesen has stepped down after an annual revision of trade association memberships.

"We review our membership status once a year to ensure that the trade associations in which we are members lobby in alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement as well as other key issues," Maersk said on its website.

The Paris agreement is a legally binding treaty between the world's countries, agreed in 2015, which aims to limit global warming by curbing global greenhouse gas emissions.

"Our choice to step down from the ICS Board should also be seen in this context," it added, without specifying what it disagreed with ICS's stance.

Maersk told the ICS of its decision at an ICS annual general meeting on June 22nd. Maersk also said it would focus its efforts on its membership of the World Shipping Council (WSC), a trade group for container shippers.

ICS represents more than 80% of the world's commercial fleet. It declined to comment on the Maersk decision.

Maersk is not directly a member of ICS, but it is a member of trade group Danish Shipping, which is a member of ICS.

Maersk has said that it is aiming for a carbon-neutral fleet by 2030 in order to meet its target of net-zero emissions by 2050.

Last October, ahead of COP26, the ICS backed a target of net zero emissions by 2050.