THE POSEIDON PRINCIPLES
Changes in the Technical Guidance from version 3.0 to 4.0

This document highlights changes and clarifications that have been made to the Technical Guidance between version 3.0 (September 2020) and version 4.0 (June 2021).

EXTENDED SCOPE
The Poseidon Principles are now applicable also to unmortgaged ECA loans tied to a vessel. This applies for all Signatories, and is covered in the newest definition:

The Poseidon Principles must be applied by Signatories in all Business Activities that are 1) credit products—including bilateral loans, syndicated loans, club deals, and guarantees—secured by vessel mortgages, finance leases secured by title over vessel, or unmortgaged ECA loans tied to a vessel and 2) where a vessel or vessels fall under the purview of the IMO (i.e. vessels 5,000 gross tonnage and above which have an established Poseidon Principles trajectory whereby the carbon intensity can be measured with IMO DCS data). The scope of financial products will be reviewed and may be expanded by Signatories on a timeline that is at their discretion.

VERIFICATION LETTER
We now also accept Verification Letters as well as Statements of Compliance, if provided by your client. Verification Letters must expressly state the vessel’s identification, reporting period relating to the IMO DCS, and must be duly signed. As these letters are optional by shipowners, they are not the mandatory requirement.

SPECIFICATION OF THE VESSEL SCOPE
To avoid any confusion about what is included in “international trade”, the definition of the scope of the Poseidon Principles was clarified:

The specification by IMO DCS of ships, for which the data are collected, was specified to vessels 5000 GT and above, not solely engaged in voyages within waters subject to the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the State the flag of which the ship is entitled to fly (as mentioned in MARPOL Annex VI, Chapter 4, Reg. 19).

It is best practice to follow the provided trajectories for the ship type and size categories which fall into the scope and ask the Secretariat if you have any questions.

ADAPTING TRAJECTORIES TO THE LATEST GHG STUDY
The trajectories in Table 6 will be adapted to the Fourth IMO GHG Study, as outlined in Appendix 3 of the Technical Guidance.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR CALCULATIONS
To best support the reporting process for Signatories, additional guidance and best practice for the assessment principle have been added to the end of Section 2 in the Technical Guidance. These new recommendations include guidance on the calendar year, bilateral facilities, and the new ECA loans within scope.

NEW ADDRESS FOR THE SECRETARIAT
Poseidon Principles Association c/o Global Maritime Forum 33B, 3rd floor, 1256 Copenhagen K, Denmark.