



ASIAN SHIPOWNERS' FORUM

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Competition Commission of Singapore

5 Maxwell Road # 13-01
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ASF Submission on CCS's Proposed Recommendations to the Minister with Respect to Liner Shipping Agreements

The Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the CCS's Consultation Document published in September 2010.

The ASF consists of the 14 shipowners' associations of Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Korea and the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations comprising Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The role of the ASF is to promote interests of the Asian shipping industry and to express its view.

We very much support the CCS's proposal to extend the block exemption for the liner shipping for a further five years, which, in our view, is indispensable for the healthy development of the shipping industry as well as the whole trading industry. We share the view of the CCS that antitrust exemption, which remains the regulatory norm for the liner industry in many jurisdictions, contributes to the stability of prices, the availability of reliable services and facilitation of technical and operational cooperation among liner operators as stated in the rationale for the BEO in 2006.

Therefore, we would strongly urge the CCS to recommend the continuation of the block exemption to the Minister.

Yours faithfully

ASIAN SHIPOWNERS' FORUM

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yuichi Sonoda', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Yuichi Sonoda
Secretary General