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18 September 1999

Clerk to Bills Committee Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong (Attn.: Miss Salumi CHAN)

Fax No. 2869 6794

Dear Miss Chan,

Bill Committee on Shipping and Port Control (Amendment) Bill 1999 Third meeting on 23 September 1999

Thank you for your letter of 27 July 1999.

Regarding the Hong Kong Cargo-Vessel Traders' Association's submission on the Bill, we would like to respond as follows –

- (a) The proposed increase of penalty charges in the Bill aims to enhance the deterrent effects so as to minimise the number of marine industrial accidents. The proposed increase will be implemented after the codes of practice are put in place.
- (b) We shall consult the Association and the industry in formulating the codes of practice.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter KWOK) for Secretary for Economic Services

c.c. Director of Marine