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Shippers Call for Establishment of Malaysia Maritime Commission Complement Efforts of the Maritime Council

The Malaysian National Shippers' Council (MNSC) welcomes the move by the Government to set up the Malaysian Shipping and Maritime Council and the Malaysian Aviation Council. As the drivers of the economy, we believe shippers (importers and exporters) represented by MNSC will also be able to play a critical role in both Councils.

MNSC has highlighted at numerous forums, the increases in various ancillary port charges imposed unilaterally by service providers which are not regulated by the Government. The increase includes Depot Gate Charges (DGC), collection of deposits by shipping lines and Non Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCC), Terminal Handling Charges (THC) and haulage tariffs, have eroded the competitiveness of Malaysian exports. However, unlike the aviation industry which is regulated by the Malaysian Aviation Commission (MAVCOM), there is no Commission for marine transportation to regulate service providers, rates and charges.

The establishment of the above two Councils by the Ministry of Transport is critical to put in place a regulated ecosystem, that is able to respond to fast-changing market conditions and demands in a fair and affordable manner. However, any Council which has no enforcement capacity may not be able to support the demands of the maritime sector. Therefore, we call upon the Government to set up a Malaysia Maritime Commission (MARCOM), an independent enforcement agency to regulate service providers, charges and unfair practices in maritime transport sector.

We believe, the establishment of MARCOM will effectively complement efforts of the Malaysian Shipping and Maritime Council, in improving transport efficiency and trade facilitation and elevate Malaysia to become "The Preferred Logistics Gateway to Asia".

About MNSC

The MNSC was established in 1972 and members consisted mainly from the commodity based exporters. Among the objectives of the Council are to protect, represent and promote the interest of Malaysian exporters and importers, producers, manufacturers, trade and industry associations and commodity based associations in relation to the transportation of goods. FMM has taken over the Secretariat of the Malaysia National Shippers' Council (MNSC) from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) effective June 2015.

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