簡新香港六十載 SAILING WITH HONG KONG FOR GO YEARS

THE HONG KONG SHIPOWNERS ASSOCIATION LTD.

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Press Release 24.5.2018

HKSOA supports FSDC's recommendations for the maritime financing and leasing industry

The Hong Kong Shipowners Association (HKSOA) supports the recommendations in the "Maritime Leasing Paper", published by the Financial Services Development Council (FSDC) earlier, for the long-term growth of Hong Kong maritime industry.

The HKSOA shares the FSDC's concern that Hong Kong must expedite efforts to build a base for commercial principals, including ship owners, lessors, carriers, investors, operators and ship-management companies, with a view to attracting more service providers to Hong Kong and expanding its maritime cluster.

"Commercial principals are the drivers of the maritime business. Hong Kong, in particular, needs commercial principals to maintain and grow its maritime presence," said Mr Jack Hsu, Chairman of the Association. "If more commercial principals are attracted to Hong Kong, it makes commercial sense for the related service providers to follow. From time to time, we come across principals from both overseas and the Mainland of China that are interested in setting up operations or regional offices in Hong Kong, as long as the city provides a stable tax and investment environment."

The HKSOA supports the various recommendations in the FSDC's paper including, among others, urging the Government to ensure the stability, consistency and transparency of Hong Kong's section 23B tax regime; to conduct a full consultation with the industry during the Government's preferential tax regime review; to reduce the standard profits tax rate for qualified ship leasing management activities and shipping-related support services; to conclude more double tax agreements with major shipping jurisdictions; and to upgrade the efficacy of the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board.

Editor's Notes:

The Hong Kong Shipowners Association's chief purpose is to promote and protect the interests of the Hong Kong domiciled shipowners and ship managers as well as the large number of local professions and services upon whom they rely in the performance of their business. For more information, please contact the Association secretariat, at tel: 2520 0206 or e-mail hksoa@hksoa.org.

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新聞稿 24.5.2018

香港船東會支持金融發展局的船舶租賃業務建議

香港船東會支持香港金融發展局(金發局)早前發表的《船舶租賃業務建議》研究報告,推動香港航運業的長遠發展。

香港船東會贊成金發局的意見,認同香港必須加大力度,協助海運業務主 導營運商,包括船東、出租人、承運人、投資者、經營者和船舶管理公司 等在香港建立業務,以吸引更多相關服務提供者來港,擴大香港的海運業 群。

「海運業務主導營運商是航運業的支柱。香港要持續發展航運業,實在有賴這些營運商。」協會主席許積臯先生說:「若能吸引更多業務主導者進駐香港,相關服務提供者也會隨之而至。我們不時遇到來自內地及海外的業務主導者,表示有意在香港設立營運基地或區域辦事處,關鍵是我們能夠提供一個穩定的稅務和投資環境。」

香港船東會支持金發局於該研究報告中的各項建議,包括促請政府確保香港《稅務條例》第 23B 條所訂立的稅制是穩健、連貫和具透明度;在檢視稅收優惠政策時,與航運業界進行全面諮詢;降低就「海運及船舶租賃管理」和「海運及船務相關配套服務」活動的標準利得稅稅率;與各主要海運管轄區簽訂更多避免雙重課稅的協定;並且提升香港海運港口局的格局。

編者按:

香港船東會的主要宗旨是促進和維護香港船東與船舶管理者、及其業務運作所依賴的許多本地專業和服務機構的利益。如有任何查詢,請與協會秘書處聯絡 (電話: 2520 – 0206, 電郵: hksoa@hksoa.org)