

**Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) Announces Change of Leadership for the SMF Board**

**Singapore, 29 December 2009...** The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) announces the change of leadership in the SMF Board with the change of its Chairman and the appointment of three maritime leaders as new Board Members. 2010 is the year which marks the change of Chairmanship and the renewal of the SMF Board since its inception in 2004.

The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) is a private sector-led organisation established in 2004 to develop and promote Singapore as an International Maritime Centre (IMC), in partnership with the Government and maritime industry. SMF was officially launched by then Minister for Transport, Mr Yeo Cheow Tong as a private sector-led organisation in 2004 to develop and promote Singapore as an International Maritime Centre (IMC), in partnership with the Government and maritime industry.

The SMF Board is steered by the Board of Directors which comprises maritime leaders from the shipping sector, the maritime ancillary services sector, the shipyard sector, and the Chief Executive of MPA.

Mr Teo Siong Seng, Chairman of the SMF Board will step down from the Board with effect from 31 December 2009 after his six years of exemplary service to SMF. Mr Michael Chia, currently the Managing Director (Offshore) of Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd, will take over the helm from S.S. Teo as the new Chairman of SMF. Mr Chia has been serving in the SMF Board since 2005.

Under Mr Teo's able leadership, SMF has charted significant milestones and spearheaded numerous initiatives to steer towards Singapore's vision to be a leading International Maritime Centre (IMC). These include the inception of *MaritimeONE*, the private-public sector collaboration which seeks to work together to nurture and attract talents into the maritime industry and the *Sea Asia* exhibition and conference.

In 2008, *MaritimeONE* was awarded as one of the winning projects for the Minister's Innovation Award conferred by Ministry of Transport. *Sea Asia*, the iconic maritime mega exhibition and conference event of Singapore, is also one of the milestones that he has achieved during his term as the Chairman of SMF. Despite his busy work commitments as the Managing Director of Pacific International Lines Pte Ltd, Mr Teo has always been contributing his expertise and time back to the society, in particular, the Singapore maritime industry. He continues to be the President of the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), the President of Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Nominated Member of Parliament.

Dato Jude Benny, Managing Partner of Joseph Tan Jude Benny has also completed his six-year term of excellent service as an SMF Board Member since the formation of SMF and stepped down from the SMF Board on 31 December 2009.

The three maritime leaders who have been appointed as new members of the SMF Board in 2010 include Mr Wong Weng Sun, President & CEO of Sembcorp Marine Pte Ltd and President of Association of Singapore Marine Industries, Mr Patrick Phoon, Deputy Managing Director of Evergreen Shipping Agency (S) Pte Ltd and Secretary of Singapore Shipping Association, and Mr Christopher Lau, Senior Counsel, Chartered Arbitrator of Messrs Christopher Lau.

**The new SMF Board of Directors comprises the eight maritime leaders:-**

**Michael Chia (Chairman)**, Managing Director (Offshore), Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd (2005 to date)

**Mr Lam Yi Young**, Chief Executive, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (2009 to date)

**Mr Kuok Khoon Kuan**, Managing Director, Pacific Carriers Ltd (2006 to date)

**Mr Erik Borgen**, Regional Director and Head of Asia, DnB NOR Bank ASA (2008 to date)

**Mr Goh Teik Poh**, President, South Asia, APL (2009 to date)

**Mr Wong Weng Sun**, President & CEO, Sembcorp Marine Pte Ltd and President of Association of Singapore Marine Industries (ASMI)

**Mr Patrick Phoon**, Deputy Managing Director, Evergreen Shipping Agency (S) Pte Ltd and Secretary of Singapore Shipping Association (SSA)

**Mr Christopher Lau**, Senior Counsel, Chartered Arbitrator, Messrs Christopher Lau

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### **About the Singapore Maritime Foundation**

The Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) is a private sector-led organisation established in 2004 to develop and promote Singapore as an **International Maritime Centre (IMC)**, in partnership with the Government and maritime industry.

The broad objectives of the SMF are:

- To provide a **forum** in the private sector for exchanging, generating and developing ideas and proposals to turn Singapore into an IMC
- To act as the **catalyst** in fostering mutual co-operation among various sectors of the maritime industry
- To serve as the government's **partner** from the private sector in promoting Singapore as an IMC and developing manpower to support the maritime industry

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### **Official quotes that were given to the media separately**

“The past six years have been a great experience and we have worked closely alongside with the maritime partners, both in the public and the private sector. I’m glad that we have achieved some milestones such as the mega-maritime show, *Sea Asia* and the *MaritimeONE* initiative. Michael is no stranger as he has been in the SMF Board since 2005. I believe that under his capable leadership, SMF would be able to clock more milestones and push forth greater initiatives that would be beneficial to the maritime industry in the long run. I also wish to thank the SMF Secretariat led by Executive Director, Mr David Chin for the good work that they have done.” said Mr S.S. Teo, outgoing Chairman, Singapore Maritime Foundation

“I look forward to undertake this new role as the Chairman of SMF to formulate new strategies to profile the maritime industry, nurture talents and steer new initiatives towards Singapore’s vision to be a leading international maritime centre. The Singapore Maritime Foundation is a unique foundation which seeks to serve as the linkbridge to foster closer ties between the private and the public sector of the Singapore maritime industry. The Singapore maritime sector is a closely knit community and I’m confident that with my new Board of Directors and the strong support of the maritime community, SMF would be able to scale greater heights,” said Mr Michael Chia, upcoming Chairman of SMF.