

**WELCOME SPEECH**  
**BY MR S.S.TEO, CHAIRMAN, SINGAPORE MARITIME FOUNDATION**  
**AT THE SMF NETWORKING RECEPTION**  
**FOR SHIOWNERS, SHIPBROKERS, SHIP FINANCIERS AND**  
**MARINE INSURANCE PROFESSIONALS, 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2008,**  
**7PM, THE BAR & BILLIARD ROOM, RAFFLES HOTEL**

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Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Evening.

1. Thank you very much for attending this networking reception organized by the Singapore Maritime Foundation. This is the first time that the SMF is gathering shipowners, shipbrokers, ship financiers and marine insurance professionals together for a networking session. We are indeed very privileged to have key decision-makers and major players of the maritime industry with us this evening.
2. Since the formation of the Singapore Maritime Foundation in 2004, the foundation has worked closely with the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore and our maritime partners from the private sector to spearhead initiatives to nurture the maritime clusters, to gel the maritime community and in the long run, to realize Singapore's vision to become a premier International Maritime Centre.
3. MPA has been very supportive in many of the SMF's initiatives. We are pleased to have with us this evening, Mr Peter Ong, Chairman of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, Permanent Secretary for Trade and Industry and Second Permanent Secretary for Finance to join us this evening as our Guest-of-Honour.
4. May I invite Peter to come onstage to give his opening address.

Thank you