

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Over 250 Maritime Leaders Joined Guest-of-Honour, Mrs Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of Transport, at the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) New Year Cocktail Reception 2017 at Regent Singapore to Usher in the New Year

Key figures of Singapore's 2016 Maritime Performance also announced at the SMF New Year Cocktail Reception on 11 January 2017

Singapore, 11 January 2017 – Over 250 top maritime leaders from the private and the public sectors attended the annual New Year Cocktail Reception hosted by the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) at Regent Singapore this evening.

The event was officiated by Guest-of-Honour, Mrs. Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Transport, and saw notable luminaries from the public sector including Mr Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Transport and Mr Niam Chiang Meng, Chairman of the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) grace the event. Leaders from the SMF Board and Advisory Panel were also present to usher in the New Year with the maritime community.

The SMF Board comprises prominent senior personalities from the maritime industry, and sets the direction for SMF's industry promotion initiatives. Since the inception of SMF in 2004, SMF has been working in sync with the public and private sectors of the maritime community to strengthen Singapore's position as an international maritime centre and nurture talent in the areas of maritime education and careers.

Please refer to **Annex A** for the full list of SMF Board Members.

In his welcome address, SMF Chairman, Mr. Andreas Sohmen-Pao outlined several milestones in the past year such as the new MSC website which was initiated by the Maritime Singapore Connect (MSC) Office¹ to profile and connect students and jobseekers with multiple pathways into the maritime industry. He noted the award of MaritimeONE Scholarship to SMF's first Computer Science student under the PSA - MaritimeONE Scholarship at the 2016 Awards Ceremony, and that 94 per cent of the 84 MaritimeONE scholars who had completed their 3 years commitment to serve the maritime sector were currently working within the industry.

Quote from Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao, Chairman of SMF:

"All of this collaboration holds the key to our future success. Nowadays everyone can build bricks and mortar, but what makes us stronger is the cohesiveness of the maritime community, the exchange of ideas, and the innovation that can come from collaboration."

Announcing Singapore's 2016 maritime performance through key indicators such as vessel arrival tonnage, bunker sales, container and cargo throughput, he shared that in spite of tough markets, activity levels remained high and that Singapore's Registry of Ships maintained the fifth largest ownership of world fleet under the nation's flag².

Quote from Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao, Chairman of SMF:

"With some consolidation now and discipline in ordering of new tonnage, and continued global economic growth, we should see a gradual improvement from the lows of last year."

Speaking on upcoming initiatives in 2017, Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao highlighted Sea Asia 2017, which will be held during Singapore Maritime Week and will be the sixth edition of Asia's premier conference and exhibition event organised by SMF and Seatrade.

– End –

¹ The Maritime Singapore Connect (MSC) Office was set up in 2016 and is part of SkillsFuture-related initiatives to profile and promote maritime careers under the Sectoral Tripartite Committee for Transport (Sea).

² Review of Maritime Transport 2016, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

For media queries, please contact:

Krystle Huan

Senior Executive

Corporate Communications

Singapore Maritime Foundation

Tel : (65) 6325-0269

Mobile : (65) 9062-3317

About Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF)

Established in 2004, the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) is a private sector-led organization that seeks to develop and promote Singapore as an International Maritime Centre (IMC). As the representative voice for the commercial players of the maritime industry, the Foundation seeks to forge strong partnerships with the public and private sectors of the maritime industry. SMF spearheads initiatives to promote the diverse clusters of the maritime industry in Singapore and at international frontiers, and to attract young talents to join the sector. SMF is directed by its Board of Directors which comprises prominent leaders in the Singapore maritime community. For details, visit www.smf.com.sg.

Annex A - Members of the Singapore Maritime Foundation Board

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| SMF Chairman | 1. Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao Chairman, BW Group |
| SMF Board Members | 2. Mrs Gina Lee-Wan Partner, Allen & Gledhill LLP 3. Mr Henry C. Mytton-Mills Managing Director, Aries Shipbroking (Asia) Pte Ltd 4. Mr Andrew Tan Chief Executive, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore 5. Mr Lee Keng Mun Head of Shipping Asia, HSH Nordbank AG 6. Mr Tan Puay Hin Senior Advisor (Group Port Design & Connectivity), PSA International Pte Ltd 7. Mr Chow Yew Yuen Chief Executive Officer, Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd 8. Mr Loo Tze Kian Managing Director, L.C.H. (S) Pte Ltd 9. Mr Ong Poh Kwee Chief Operating Officer, Sembcorp Marine Ltd 10. Ms Lisa Teo Executive Director, Corporate Development, Pacific International Lines (Pte) Ltd |