

ANNEX: QUOTES FROM INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Mr Simon Kuik, President of Association of Singapore Marine Industries, said, “As part of Singapore’s extensive maritime ecosystem, we are pleased to see the republic being recognised again internationally as a top maritime centre. The Marine and Offshore Engineering community in Singapore had over the past year managed to overcome various limitations and challenges presented by the pandemic to ensure the delivery of safe, quality and timely services to the shipping community. We will continue to push ahead through the advancement of technology and providing innovative suite of product solutions for a sustainable ocean and the future of decarbonised shipping.”

Ms Caroline Yang, President of the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), said, “Despite the challenging crew change and business environment, it is heartening that Singapore is once again recognised as the top maritime centre in the eighth edition of Xinghua-Baltic ISCD Index. In my view, this is largely due to the active engagement of the shipping industry and authorities as well as collaborations with maritime stakeholders on shared goals to keep the maritime industry in Singapore vital and vibrant.”

Mr Ong Kim Pong, Regional CEO Southeast Asia, PSA International, said, “This is a vote of confidence to the hallmark of service excellence offered by the Port of Singapore. We extend our deepest thanks to our staff, unions and industry partners for their efforts through the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. PSA will continue to drive innovation and sustainability, grow new capabilities and leverage digital technologies while pursuing our goal of greater supply chain orchestration, transforming Singapore’s maritime and logistics communities into a well-connected and resilient global hub.”

Ms Mary Liew, General Secretary of the Singapore Maritime Officers’ Union (SMOU), said, “Congratulations MPA on maintaining Singapore as the top International Maritime Centre for the eighth consecutive year. MPA’s efforts have been commendable in rallying Tripartite partners during the period of the pandemic to roll out support initiatives, while putting in place safeguards and protocols to keep our maritime sector safe and running. Across the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, Singapore has been able to facilitate crew change in a safe way for our seafarers, who are key workers of the shipping industry. With the support of maritime tripartite partners, the next step for Singapore will be to work towards becoming a vaccination hub for seafarers that call at our ports, protecting them, their families, and the maritime community as we progress on our road to recovery.”

Mr Kam Soon Huat, President of the Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS), said, “Singapore’s robust tripartite partnership involving MPA, SSA, SMOU and SOS allows us to effectively address issues that arise amid the pandemic, such as crew changes. Recognising the crew change crisis and the predicament faced by seafarers, the national task force led, by tripartite partners, has established a safe and scalable crew change model that ensures a safe crew change process for repatriating and signing-on of seafarers. Our tripartite efforts play a crucial role in Singapore’s success as a maritime nation and a global maritime centre.”