



香港領港會有限公司  
HONG KONG PILOTS ASSOCIATION LTD.

Your Ref: .....

Our Ref: KPL097/2016

12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Representations on Case BE/0004  
Competition Commission  
Room 3601, 36/F Wu Chung House  
213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai  
Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

**Block Exemption Order for VSAs and VDAs**

Being a major port service provider in Hong Kong, Hong Kong Pilots Association welcomes the application of block exemption of both Vessel Sharing Agreements (VSAs) and Voluntary Discussion Agreements (VDAs) by Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association.

Similar exemption had been addressed in neighborhood countries. In order to maintain Hong Kong's competitiveness as maritime centre and transshipment hub in Asia, a business-friendly environment for shipping industry is particularly essential. The Competition Commission is suggested having thorough consideration the influence to the shipping industry, and even the economy of Hong Kong if the VDAs were not exempted.

Thank you for your concern and consideration on the subject.

Yours faithfully,

Marso Law  
Chairman

cc : Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association