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Republic of Korea and Thailand

Agreement on maritime transport between the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand. Bangkok, 13 May 2002

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[ENGLISH TEXT - TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT ON MARITIME TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

The Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties"),

CONSCIOUS of the need to promote and harmonize maritime transport activities between the two countries,

DESIROUS of establishing amicable cooperation in the field of maritime transport on the basis of reciprocity and mutual interest,

CONVINCED that the development of maritime transport between the two countries will contribute to the strengthening of their cooperation,

HAVE agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the purpose of this Agreement:

- 1. The term "vessel of a Contracting Party" shall mean any commercial vessel registered in the ship registry of either Contracting Party and flying its flag in accordance with its laws and regulations. However, this term shall not include:
 - (a) warships;
 - (b) public vessels designed or used for non-commercial purposes;
 - (c) hydrographic, oceanographic and scientific research vessels;
 - (d) fishing vessels;
 - (e) vessels used for pilotage, towage or sea-rescue;
 - (f) nuclear propelled vessels; and
 - (g) those vessels that do not comply with the laws and regulations of each Contracting Party.
- 2. The term "members of the crew" shall mean the master and any other person actually employed for duties on board during the voyage of a vessel whose names are included in its crew list and who hold the identity documents referred to in Article 9 of this Agreement.

- 3. The term "shipping company of a Contracting Party" shall mean a shipping company which has its domicile in the territory of either Contracting Party and is registered or incorporated under the laws and regulations of that Contracting Party.
- 4. The term "competent authority" shall mean in the case of the Republic of Korea, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, and in the case of the Kingdom of Thailand, the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties affirm that they remain devoted to the principle of freedom of maritime transport and the principle of fair competition and that they agree to refrain from any action which might harm the development of international shipping and the free activities of their vessels.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties agree that this Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Contracting Parties arising from international conventions and agreements relating to maritime matters.

Article 4

- 1. The Contracting Parties agree:
 - (a) to ensure the participation of the shipping companies as well as the vessels of the other Contracting Parties in the maritime transport between the ports of both Contracting Parties and not to prevent them from participating in the maritime transport between their ports and the ports of third countries. The vessels chartered by shipping companies of the other Contracting Party shall be granted the same advantages as if they were flying the flag of that other Contracting Party;

- (b) to cooperate with a view to eliminating all obstacles that might impede the development of maritime trade between the ports of both Contracting Parties and which might interfere with the various activities connected with such trade.
- 2. The provisions of this Article shall not restrict the right of the shipping companies from third countries as well as the vessels flying the flag of a third country to participate in the transport of goods within the framework of the bilateral trade between the Contracting Parties.

Article 5

In accordance with its laws and regulations, each Contracting Party shall grant the shipping companies of the other Contracting Party the right to establish branch offices in its territory. The branch offices shall have the right to act as agents for their principal office.

Article 6

This Agreement shall not apply to cabotage. Where a vessel of either Contracting Party sails from one port to another in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of discharging inward cargo and/or disembarking passengers from abroad or loading outward cargo and/or embarking passengers destined for foreign countries, it shall not be regarded as cabotage.

Article 7

1. Each Contracting Party shall take, within the limits of its laws and regulations, all necessary measures to facilitate and expedite maritime transport and to expedite and simplify, as much as possible, all administrative, customs, health and other formalities required in its ports. This paragraph shall not prejudice the rights of