Brussels, 5 March 2015

To: World Shipping Council (WSC), International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (Intertanko), International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (Intercargo), Interferry, and Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)

Re: Support at MEPC for clear and meaningful GHG reduction target for shipping

Dear Chairpersons, CEOs, Directors, Presidents, Secretaries-general,

The international community has agreed that urgent action must be taken to keep the increase in global warming below 2 degrees in 2050. Many believe that a 1.5 degree target is necessary to avoid dangerous climate change. Within the UNFCCC process all parties are being asked to make substantial emission reduction commitments in the 2015 Paris Protocol consistent with this objective. The 1997 Kyoto Protocol called on the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to limit and reduce emissions from international shipping yet very little has been achieved with CO2 emissions from international shipping having grown by over 100% since the Kyoto baseline year, 1990. Moreover the Third IMO GHG study (2014) predicts ship emissions will further grow 50% to 2050% by 2050. The study also shows clearly that any improvements in ship efficiency will be insufficient to offset growth in demand. In short, without further regulation, future ship emissions could undermine all other efforts to keep warming below dangerous levels.

The 68th session of the IMO’s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC68) in May of this year is the last opportunity before Paris for the IMO to take substantive action. The Clean Shipping Coalition (CSC) therefore calls upon the WSC, the ICS, BIMCO, Intertanko, Intercargo, Interferry, and the CLIA to lend their clear support for the negotiation of an agreement at MEPC68 that includes:

- A clear and meaningful reduction target for shipping that is consistent with keeping warming below 2 degrees, and
- The expedited development of the measures necessary to achieve that target.

Members of upon the WSC, the ICS, BIMCO, Intertanko, Intercargo, Interferry, and the CLIA are on record as supporting efforts to promote sound environmental stewardship. The CSC calls on the these industry groups to give prominent voice to achieve these IMO objectives both publically ahead of MEPC68 – and critically within the MEPC itself – and to join with other industry organisations and IMO member states to ensure the above outcomes at the IMO’s MEPC68 this May.
Yours sincerely,

John Maggs,  
President, Clean Shipping Coalition and  
Senior policy advisor, Seas At Risk

On behalf of:  
AirClim, Bellona, Clean Air Taskforce, De Noordzee, Environmental Defense Fund, Oceana,  
Seas At Risk, and Transport & Environment

The global environmental coalition exclusively dedicated to shipping