



## **JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

Singapore, 24 April 2023

### **SINGAPORE, LOS ANGELES, AND LONG BEACH PORTS INK AGREEMENT ON GREEN AND DIGITAL SHIPPING CORRIDOR**

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), Port of Los Angeles (POLA), and Port of Long Beach (POLB), with the support of C40 Cities, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) today to establish a green and digital shipping corridor between Singapore and the San Pedro Bay port complex to support the decarbonisation of the maritime industry and improve efficiencies through digitalisation.

2. The MoU was signed by Mr TEO Eng Dih, Chief Executive of MPA, Mr Gene SEROKA, Executive Director of POLA, and Mr Mario CORDERO, Executive Director of POLB, and witnessed by Mr S Iswaran, Singapore's Minister for Transport and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations, Mr CHEE Hong Tat, Singapore's Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Transport, Mr Jonathan KAPLAN, Ambassador of the United States to Singapore, Mr NIAM Chiang Meng, Chairman of MPA, Ms Sharon WEISSMAN, Long Beach Harbor Commission President, and Mr Edward RENWICK, Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner.

3. C40 is the facilitator of the green and digital shipping corridor, providing support to the cities, ports, and their corridor partners by coordinating, convening, facilitating, and providing communications support in furtherance of the corridor's goals.

4. As leading global hub ports, Singapore, Los Angeles and Long Beach are vital nodes on the trans-Pacific shipping lane and key stakeholders in the maritime sector's green transition. Ahead of the revision of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Initial Strategy for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions from Ships in July 2023, the three ports will come together with C40 and other stakeholders in the maritime and energy value chains, to jointly accelerate the decarbonisation of the maritime industry in line with the goals of IMO, and Singapore's and the United

States' respective Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)<sup>1</sup>. The MoU also builds on the ports' long-standing cooperation through platforms such as the Port Authorities' Roundtable (PAR)<sup>2</sup> and chainPORT<sup>3</sup>, and complements bilateral initiatives between Singapore and the United States such as the U.S.-Singapore Climate Partnership<sup>4</sup> and the U.S.-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation<sup>5</sup>. In his message at the annual Singapore Maritime Week, John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate said, "Shipping is responsible for approximately a gigaton of greenhouse gas emissions each year . . . [b]ut the good news is that many shipping companies, ports, and countries are stepping up. Today's MoU is one of those pieces of good news!"

5. The green and digital shipping corridor aims to support the transition to low- and zero-emission fuels by ships calling at Singapore and the San Pedro Bay port complex. The parties will work to facilitate the supply and adoption of these fuels and explore the necessary infrastructure and regulations for bunkering. In addition to identifying and collaborating on pilot and demonstration projects, the MoU aims to identify digital shipping solutions and develop standards and best practices for green ports and the bunkering of alternative marine fuels, including sharing experiences at international platforms such as IMO.

6. The MoU follows from an earlier announcement in November 2022, that MPA, POLA, POLB and C40 had begun discussions to establish a green and digital shipping corridor between Singapore and the San Pedro Bay port complex. This announcement was featured in the Green Shipping Challenge, launched by the United States and Norway during the World Leaders' Summit at the 27<sup>th</sup> United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27/CMP17/CMA4)<sup>6</sup> in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. The Green Shipping Challenge hopes to encourage governments, ports, maritime carriers, cargo owners,

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<sup>1</sup> The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve. Parties shall pursue domestic mitigation measures, with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.

<sup>2</sup> The Port Authorities Roundtable (PAR) is the platform of choice for leading port authorities to exchange best practices, discuss issues of common interest and build mutually beneficial collaboration in today's evolving maritime landscape. MPA initiated the PAR in 2015 and serves as its Secretariat, while the Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach are active participants.

<sup>3</sup> Initiated by the Port of Los Angeles and Port of Hamburg, chainPORT aims to bring together port authorities, their partners and customers to share experiences and develop common strategies, with a focus on digitalisation and smart ports. MPA is a member of the chainPORT network.

<sup>4</sup> Launched in 2021, the U.S.-Singapore Climate Partnership aims to foster closer collaboration on climate action, environmental governance, sustainable development and low-carbon solutions.

<sup>5</sup> Launched in 2021, the U.S.-Singapore Partnership for Growth and Innovation aims to strengthen bilateral and regional collaboration on trade and investment, covering pillars such as digital economy, energy and environmental technologies, advanced manufacturing, and healthcare.

<sup>6</sup> This refers to the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27), the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP17), and the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA4).

and other stakeholders across the maritime value chain to commit to concrete steps to galvanise global action to decarbonise the shipping industry.

7. Mr TEO Eng Dih said, “The signing of this MoU signals our collective will to pool our resources, technical insights, industry and research networks to deliver scalable green as well as digital corridor solutions to help the maritime industry attain the 2050 emission reduction targets expected of the International Maritime Organization and help spur the development of green growth opportunities.”

8. “No single port or organization can tackle the challenge of decarbonizing the supply chain alone, no matter how innovative their technology or robust their efforts. The establishment of this green shipping corridor between the San Pedro Bay Port Complex and Singapore will prove to be a living, breathing testament to the power of global collaboration,” said Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene SEROKA. “I am honored to be here with key leaders from MPA Singapore, the Port of Long Beach, and C40 Cities to sign this MOU turning a shared commitment to fighting climate change into a meaningful step forward toward the future of global sustainability.”

9. “Curbing greenhouse gases from international shipping is essential to fight global warming,” said Port of Long Beach Executive Director Mario CORDERO. “Creating this green corridor with our partner ports and C40 Cities is part of our strategy to coalesce all of our efforts here and beyond to help advance our goals for cleaner marine fuels for oceangoing vessels, improve efficiencies for the global movement of goods, and to achieve a carbon-neutral future.”

10. C40 Cities Executive Director Mark WATTS said, "Delivering science-based, rapid and concrete action on shipping emissions is crucial to ensure the shipping sector decarbonisation is aligned with the goal of keeping global heating below 1.5°C. C40 is proud to support this first mover initiative aimed at accelerating the transition to low- and zero-carbon fuels and other decarbonisation technologies."

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### **About the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)**

MPA was established on 2 February 1996 with the mission to develop Singapore as a premier global hub port and international maritime centre, and to advance and safeguard Singapore’s strategic maritime interests. MPA is the driving force behind Singapore’s port and maritime development, taking on the roles of port authority, maritime and port regulator and planner, international maritime centre champion, national maritime representative and a champion of digitalisation and decarbonisation efforts at regional and international fora such as at the International Maritime Organization. MPA partners industry, research community and other agencies to enhance safety, security and environmental protection in our waters, facilitate maritime

and port operations and growth, expand the cluster of maritime ancillary services, and develops maritime digitalisation and decarbonisation policies and plans, R&D and manpower development. MPA is responsible for the overall development and growth of the maritime domain and Port of Singapore. In 2022, Singapore remained one of the world's busiest transshipment hubs with a container throughput of 37.3 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

For more information, please visit <https://www.mpa.gov.sg>

### **About the Port of Los Angeles**

The busiest seaport in the Western Hemisphere, the [Port of Los Angeles](#) is North America's leading trade gateway and has ranked as the No. 1 container port in the United States for 23 consecutive years. In 2022, the Port facilitated \$311 billion in trade and handled a total of 9.9 million container units, the second busiest calendar year in the Port's 116-year history. San Pedro Bay port complex operations and commerce facilitate one in nine jobs across the Southern California counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura.

For more information, please visit [www.portoflosangeles.org](http://www.portoflosangeles.org).

### **About the Port of Long Beach**

The Port of Long Beach is a global leader in operational excellence and top-notch customer service, moving cargo with reliability, speed and efficiency. As the premier U.S. gateway for trans-Pacific trade, the Port handles trade valued at \$200 billion annually and supports 2.6 million trade-related jobs across the United States, including 575,000 in Southern California and 1 in 5 jobs in Long Beach. In 2022, industry leaders named it "The Best West Coast Seaport in North America" for the fourth consecutive year. The Port had its second-busiest year ever in 2022, with 9.13 million twenty-foot equivalent units handled. During the next 10 years, the Port is planning \$2.2 billion in capital improvements aimed at enhancing capacity, competitiveness and sustainability.

For more information, please visit [www.polb.com](http://www.polb.com).

### **About the C40 Cities**

C40 is a network of nearly 100 mayors of the world's leading cities who are working to deliver the urgent action needed right now to confront the climate crisis and create a future where everyone, everywhere can thrive. Mayors of C40 cities are committed to using a science-based and people-focused approach to help the world limit global heating to 1.5°C and build healthy, equitable and resilient communities. Through a Global Green New Deal, mayors are working alongside a broad coalition of representatives from labour, business, the youth climate movement and civil society to go further and faster than ever before. The current Chair of C40 is Mayor of London Sadiq Khan; and three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40's work is made possible by our three strategic funders:

Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), and Realdania.

To learn more about the work of C40 and our cities, please visit [our website](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

### **About Singapore Maritime Week 2023**

SMW is an annual gathering of the international maritime community to advance key industry issues and exchange ideas to bring the sector forward. Driven by MPA, in collaboration with industry stakeholders and research and educational institutions, SMW brings together key opinion leaders and industry leaders through conferences, dialogues and forums.

The range of activities and events organised by MPA, industry stakeholders and research and educational institutions, as well as the cosmopolitan profile of participants, reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Singapore as a global hub port and leading international maritime centre.



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