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PRESS RELEASE

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PORT KLANG AUTHORITY SIGNS DECLARATION TO KEEP PORTS OPEN AMIDST THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

Port Klang Authority signed a Joint Declaration with 19 other international port authorities to keep their ports open to seaborne trade amidst the restrictions and challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The declaration is a pledge by 20 members of the Port Authorities Roundtable (PAR) comprising leading ports from Asia, Europe, Middle East and North America.

The PAR forum is a platform for member ports to network and share best practices related to port operations, environmental sustainability, security, safety and trade facilitation. Port Klang Authority has been a member of PAR since its initiation in 2015. This declaration, initiated by Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore was signed virtually by member ports across different geographical regions through a Video Conference yesterday. Port Klang Authority was represented by its General Manager, Capt. K. Subramaniam.

Through this joint declaration, the members of the PAR declared commitment to collaborate closely, through the sharing of best practices and implement measures which will ensure ports remain open to trade

In the declaration, the members pledged to:

- i. Ensure minimal disruption to shipping activities, so that the global supply chain and trade keeps moving, and that merchant ships can continue to berth at terminals to carry out cargo operations.
- ii. Facilitate closer coordination by establishing an open communication channel so that like-minded port and maritime authorities can share experiences/exchange information in combating COVID-19 while safeguarding unimpeded maritime trade.
- iii. Continue to adopt best practices according to national circumstances, including precautionary measures for shipping community, advisories for shore personnel and ship crew, safe handling of cargoes and measures taken in dealing with COVID-19 cases.

The declaration also expressed deepest appreciation to seafarers, shore-based workers and the maritime community who have worked tirelessly amidst the on-going pandemic in enabling international trade to continue during these challenging times.

Besides Port Klang, the other Port Authorities included in this declaration are Abu Dhabi, Antwerp, Tokyo, Busan, Guangzhou, Hamburg, Singapore, Montreal, Ningbo, Bangkok, Barcelona, Yokohama, Kobe, Le Harve, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Rotterdam, Seattle and Shanghai.

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