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August 7, 2000

Mr. Peter Morris
Chairman
International Commission on Shipping
P.O. Box 162 Civic Square
Canberra Act 2614
Australia

Dear Mr. Morris:

The American Institute of Marine Underwriters (AIMU) is an association of over 90 admitted marine insurers who write the vast majority of the wet marine insurance placed in the United States. AIMU members insure vessels, cargo in international transport, pollution liabilities, oil rigs, and other specialized marine exposures.

AIMU serves its members by, among other things, disseminating information of interest to the marine insurance industry, and AIMU has informed its members of the existence and work program of ICONS. The members of AIMU may therefore be making submissions directly to ICONS.

In the meantime, AIMU would like to express its support for the goals and work of ICONS. Specifically, AIMU agrees that there are continuing problems caused by substandard shipping and that these greater problems must be addressed on an international level. AIMU hopes that the work of ICONS will lead to greater international recognition of the problem and enforcement of international standards to ensure a safer and environmentally sound shipping industry.

Very truly yours,

Walter M. Kramer
President