



## International Commission on Shipping

**Chairman:**

Hon. Peter Morris

**Commissioners:**

Mr. James Bell

Prof. Moritaka Hayashi

Capt. Barry McKay

### ICONS REPORT RELEASED MARCH 6, 2001

International Commission on Shipping (ICONS) chair, former Australian Transport Minister and Ships of Shame report author, Peter Morris, will release the Commission's 'Ships, Slaves and Competition' report with an address to the APEC International Symposium on Ship Safety at the Four Points Hotel, Darling Harbour, Sydney at 9.45 am on Tuesday, March 6, 2001.

The Commission received 125 written submissions and Commissioners travelled widely and liaised extensively with industry operators and governments in the year-long investigation into international ship safety.

ICONS heard evidence that tens of thousands of seafarers in 10 to 15 per cent of the world's ships work in slave conditions, with minimal safety, long hours for little or no pay, starvation diets, rape and beatings. It has been told of crew who have disappeared after complaints to officers and employer practices of blacklisting sailors who complain to unions.

The commission is recommending pragmatic, wide-ranging solutions - fashioned through cooperation between industry champions, quality ship owners, ship inspectors and their governments, cargo owners, and UN and international organisations - to end the misery.

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