



## Media Release

Friday 31 August 2007

### **Inaugural Meeting of The Australian Maritime and Transport Commission (AMTAC)**

Australia is poised to become an international leader in resolving disputes in the maritime and transport industry with the inaugural meeting of The Australian Maritime and Transport Commission (AMTAC) being held in Sydney yesterday.

AMTAC's objectives are to support and facilitate both international and domestic arbitration and mediation in respect of maritime and transport disputes and to promote Australia and the region as a recognised leader in maritime and transport scholarship, maritime affairs and commercial maritime dispute resolution.

The inaugural meeting was an opportunity for key representatives of the maritime and transport industries to appoint an executive to manage the day to day affairs of AMTAC and to discuss its future operations.

The appointed executive were, Chair Peter McQueen (Blake Dawson Waldron), and three Vice Chairs Dr Sarah Derrington (University of Queensland), Lachlan Payne (Australian Logistics Council and Australian Shipowners Association) and Stephen Bouwhuis (Attorney General's Department).

Peter McQueen the newly appointed Chair of AMTAC said "the formation of the executive is an important step for AMTAC and in fulfilling its objectives, we look forward to working closely with the industry to promote an understanding of and provide services for maritime and transport dispute resolution."

Also in attendance at the meeting were representatives from the Associated Marine Insurers Agents Pty Ltd, the Association of Australian Ports and Marine, the Australasian Institute of Marine Surveyors, the Australian Federation of International Forwarders, the Australian Logistics Council, the Australian Shipowners Association, the Australian Marine Pilots Association, the Australian Maritime College, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the Company of Master Mariners of Australia Ltd, the Department of Transport and Regional Services, the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers Australia, the Insurance Council of Australia, the Lumley Group, the Maritime Law Association of Australia and New Zealand, the National Bulk Commodities Group, Shipping Australia Limited, Steamship Mutual Underwriting Association (Bermuda) Limited, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and The University of Queensland.

AMTAC operates under the auspices of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA) with support from the Attorney General's Department.

Further media comment is available from AMTAC's Chairperson, Mr Peter McQueen, on 0408 788 828.