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15 March 2017

MC(17)11

To: **MARINE COMMITTEE**

Copy: **All Full and Associate Members (for information)
Maritime Law Committee**

PHILIPPINES PROVINCE OF ZAMBALES – ENVIRONMENTAL CHARGES

Action Required: Further to MC (17)10, Members are invited to note an update on the recent 'environmental' charges by the Province of Zambales in the Philippines and to advise their shipowner Members accordingly.

ICS has received a significant number of forwarded invoices from companies relating to an environmental charge in the Zambales region of the Philippines. Companies are encouraged to continue to keep ICS informed.

In the meantime Congressman Manalo is convening a public inquiry into the situation to be held next week with a view to ending the action by the Province. Separately the Filipino Shipowners' Association is meeting on Thursday to finalise the filing of a legal case against Zambales.

Outcomes of these actions will be forwarded when known. The advice to withhold payment remains extant.

In the interim, and as noted in MC (17)10, ICS Members are invited to keep the secretariat informed of invoices received, via jade.smith@ics-shipping.org.

Peter Hinchliffe
Secretary General