



# INDEPENDENT CONSUMER & COMPETITION COMMISSION

## Office of the Commissioner

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## Proposed Increase in Handling Rates Illegal

The Independent Consumer & Competition Commission ("ICCC") wishes to advise the general public, users of the stevedoring and handling services and the members of the Association of Licensed Stevedoring Contractors ("ALSC") that the ALSC's decision to increase handling rates by 14.67% with effect from 1st August 2007 is both illegal and of no effect.

Stevedoring and Handling services are declared for price regulation by the ICCC under Section 10 of the Prices Regulation Act Chapter 320 (Amended). Under the applicable provisions of this Act, the ICCC is the **only authority** mandated with the responsibility to approve and announce any increase in handling rates thereof.

The ICCC is currently conducting a major review of the existing pricing arrangements that apply in the Stevedoring and Handling industry and will soon release its final report. This report will, among other things, set out the new pricing arrangements and other related matters that will apply in that industry going forward.

Accordingly, the general public and more particularly users of Stevedoring and Handling services are hereby advised to report to the ICCC any instances of the purported increase been applied by members of the ALSC. The contact person at ICCC is Mr Stanley Alphonse and he can be contacted on 325 2144 or on email: [salphonse@iccc.gov.pg](mailto:salphonse@iccc.gov.pg)

Authorised by:

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Commissioner & CEO