## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**



SG (96) D/ 3650

Brussels, 03 -04- 1996

REGISTERED WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF RECEIPT

Subject: Case No IV/35.768 - Joint Pool Agreement

I have pleasure to inform you that the Commission has decided not to oppose your clients' application in the case referred to above notified to the Commission on 20 October 1995 pursuant to Article 7 of the Commission Regulation No 870/95<sup>(1)</sup>.

Your clients' consortium agreement, the Joint Pool Agreement, is therefore deemed exempt from the prohibition in Article 85(1) of the EC Treaty and benefits, as from the date of notification, from the block exemption granted by the Commission Regulation No 870/95 through the opposition procedure provided in Article 7 as extended by Article 13 of that Regulation until the date of expiry of the Regulation - ie. 21 April 2000.

I draw your attention to the provisions in Article 9 of Regulation No 870/95 which state that any consordium enjoying the benefit of the block exemption must continue to comply with the conditions and obligations set out in the Regulation during the life of the exemption.

Yours faithfully

Karel VAN MIERT

Member of the Commission

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Commission Regulation N° 870/95 of 20 April 1995 on the application of Article 85(3) of the Treaty to certain categories of agreements, decisions and concerted practices between liner shipping companies (consortia) pursuant to Council Regulation N° 479/92, OJ, L89 21.4.95 p.7.