

## TO ALL OWNERS AND MEMBERS

26 November 2014

Dear Sirs

### REVISED HIMALAYA CLAUSE FOR BILLS OF LADING AND OTHER CONTRACTS

Owners and members were advised by our club circular issued on 08 October 2010 of the joint review of the Himalaya Clause for use in bills of lading and other contracts undertaken by the International Group of P & I clubs (IG) and BIMCO, and of the revised BIMCO/IG Himalaya Clause wording recommended for adoption following that review. This further circular should be read in conjunction with our 8 October 2010 circular (linked [here](#)), which set out the key features and intended effects of the 2010 revision of the original Himalaya Clause.

Since the publication of the recommended revised wording in 2010, it has been reported that there have been cases in the US where claimants have filed suit against vessel managers in order to avoid the COGSA defences/limitations which protect shipowners. US legal advice was therefore obtained on a possible amendment of the current revised clause, which expressly extends to 'servant, agent, direct or indirect sub-contractor or any other party employed by or on behalf of the Carrier,' to also expressly include managers.

Most other jurisdictions would be likely to interpret the clause as currently drafted as extending to a manager employed by the owner. However, on the basis of the advice received, and with the joint agreement of BIMCO, a further revised Himalaya Clause wording has been produced with the objective of making it expressly clear that the protection afforded under the clause is extended to managers. The revised wording is set out in the appendix hereto. Owners/members are recommended to amend their contracts of carriage to incorporate this new clause.

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The Standard Club Asia Ltd

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Incorporated in Singapore No. 199703224R. Authorised and regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore

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The clause may also be downloaded from the BIMCO website at [www.bimco.org](http://www.bimco.org) and is also available as an additional clause to subscribers of BIMCO's online charter party editing system, *idea*.

All clubs in the International Group are issuing a similar circular on this subject.

Yours faithfully



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