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### **Highlights**

### Chairman's Message 2017

2016 was a year of unpredictable major political and economic surprises. Many were shocked by United Kingdom's decision to exit EU and when Donald Trump was elected to be the next President of America. Confidence in the Eurozone has continued to be undermined by political risks, the rise of national opt-outs from region-wide policy and the EU's struggle to deal with Brexit. Threats to the European community such as the future of Greece, immigration crisis and difficulties in its banking sector coupled with the spate of elections in 2017 will contribute to the uncertainties of the region.

Weak economic climate continue to trouble businesses all around the world. Trade growth seems to lag behind economic growth putting strong pressure on the shipping industry. Environmental factors such as the low resource prices and changing market behaviour is causing major structural changes to the world's economy. We are likely to experience more disruption as more disruptive technologies emerged.

In the shipping world, we witnessed the bankruptcy of a large shipping company which in turn accelerated the merger and realignment of many others. We are likely to see more consolidation going forward. However, the oversupply of vessels will continue into 2017 and put pressure on the freight market. We have learnt to live with the volatility of the ocean freight and adapt accordingly in our pricing strategies.

Notwithstanding the challenges we have to face in 2016, we came out rather strong with our trade volumes largely intact and financially satisfactory. I am grateful to the team who have been working extra hard to stay the course. Going forward, we will still pursue our long term strategy of expanding our global presence and footprint. We aim to

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compete globally effectively offering world class services. In 2016 we saw the set-up of 2 new offices in Philippines. More is expected to follow in 2017.

Our large customer base of small and medium size forwarders still remain to be our main source. We will re-new greater focus to reach out further to the needs of this important market segment. In this regard, we have strengthen our team in HQ to make a greater push in this direction and to realise our vision to be a Consolidator of Choice. We will invest in widening our product range and man power training to ensure our sustainability. We will be on the lookout for opportunities that may present itself in time of crisis. Our push on technological development and productivity growth will continue to help us reach the targets we set out to achieve in 2017. We strongly believe that with our strong brand name and a mature network, we are well poise to meet our challenges squarely in the year ahead.

I would like to thank our customers for their support in 2017 and we look forward to work harder with you as we weather the difficult times ahead together. With our commitment and strong fundamentals, I believe we will prevail together with our partners, our staff and our customers.

Let me wish you and your family all the blessings of the New Year and a successful 2017!



CW Tan, Executive Chairman

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### Relocation of Globelink Office – Turkey

With effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2017, our Globelink Unimar office will be relocated to the new address as shown:





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#### **New Consolidation Service**

We have added the following consolidation service into our CWT Globelink Group network:

### Koper to Marport/Istanbul, Turkey

Carrier: Arkas Line

Sailing: Every Wednesday

Transit time: 5 days

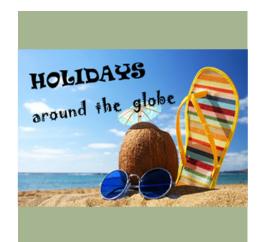
Frequency: Fortnightly

For rates inquiry and more information, please contact Globelink Slovenia at Tel: (386) 4 620 22 14 or Email: aleksandra.krzisnik@globelinkslovenia.com



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#### **Holidays in JANUARY 2017**

Holidays in JANUARY 2017		
Australia	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
, 10011 Gill G	26 Jan	Australia Day
Bulgaria	01 Jan	New Year's Day
China	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Criiria		,
O I - D'	27 Jan to 02 Feb	Chinese New Year
Costa Rica	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Croatia	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	06 Jan	Epiphany
Egypt	07 Jan	Coptic Christmas Day
	25 Jan	Revolution Day
Guatemala	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Hong Kong	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
	28 to 31 Jan	Lunar New Year's Day
India	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	14 Jan	Makar Sankranti
	26 Jan	Republic Day
Indonesia	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	28 Jan	Chinese New Year
Korea	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	27 to 30 Jan	Seollal (Lunar New Year)
Kuwait	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Malaysia	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
•	28 to 29 Jan	Chinese New Year
Morocco	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	11 Jan	Manifesto of Independence
Philippines	01 Jan	New Year's Day
1-1-	28 Jan	Chinese New Year
Portugal	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Qatar	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Romania	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
Singapore	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
Sirigapore	28 to 30 Jan	Chinese New Year
Slovenia	01 Jan	New Year's Day
Spain	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
Spairi	06 Jan	Epiphany
Sri Lanka	12 Jan	Duruthu Full Moon Poya Day
311 LUTIKU	14 Jan	
Taiwan	01 to 02 Jan	Tamil Thai Pongal Day
Idiwan		New Year's Day
T 4 -	27 Jan to 01 Feb	Lunar New Year
Turkey	01 Jan	New Year's Day
U.A.E	01 Jan	New Year's Day
United Kingdom	01 Jan	New Year's Day
	02 Jan	New Year's Day (substitute day)
Vietnam	01 to 02 Jan	New Year's Day
	27 Jan to 02 Feb	Vietnamese New Year



For article contributions and feedback, please email: <a href="mailto:newsletter@cwt-globelink.com">newsletter@cwt-globelink.com</a>

### **CWT Globelink Group**

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