

AGREED MINUTES

Delegations representing the Governments of the Federative Republic of Brazil and of the United States of America met in Brasilia on April 6, 2004, to conclude negotiation of a new bilateral maritime transport agreement. The discussions proceeded in a friendly and productive atmosphere; delegation lists appear as Attachment A.

The delegations reached *ad referendum* agreement on the text of a new bilateral agreement (Attachment B). The delegations noted that the agreement, which will enter into force upon the exchange of notifications following the completion of necessary internal procedures, establishes a comprehensive and liberal operating environment for the carriers of both countries.

The delegations discussed the complex problems of ensuring security in international shipping, in particular the implementation of the new IMO International Ship and Port Facility Code, which is scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2004. The delegations further emphasized the fundamental significance of national security as in the critical interests of both countries, particularly since recent terrorist attacks in the United States, Spain, and elsewhere in the world. The new agreement reflects the importance of this issue.

Recognizing the different legal systems under which the maritime authorities of the two countries operate, the delegations further noted the intentions of their maritime authorities to permit operations consistent with the terms of the agreement on the basis of comity and reciprocity pending its entry into force, to the degree permitted under their respective laws. In this connection, the delegations noted their mutual expectation that the agreement will be brought into force as expeditiously as possible.

For the Delegation of the Federative
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For the Delegation of the United
States of America:

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Signed

Brasilia
April 6, 2004