

PETER T. KING

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3203

February 14, 2012

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
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ON INTELLIGENCE

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT & INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. Jacques R. Saadé  
Chief Executive Officer, CMA CGM  
4, Quai d'Arenc  
13235 Marseille, France

Dear Mr. Saadé,

It is with a great dismay that I write to you, once again, to express my deep concern regarding CMA CGM's business relationship with Iran. For a short time, I was optimistic that your compliance procedures would be effective in avoiding illicit dealings with Iran. However, it has come to my attention that CMA CGM's dealings with the Islamic Republic of Iran continue.

I understand that CMA CGM is a joint operator of Malta's Freeport container terminal and that that Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL) is one of Malta Freeport's leading customers. As I'm sure you are aware, IRISL and its Malta-based front companies have been placed under sanctions by both the United States and the European Union. However, cargo traffic between Iran and Europe continues via the Malta port, where cargo is off-loaded and transferred to other vessels, thus circumventing these international sanctions. By continuing to allow IRISL and its subsidiaries to operate in the Malta Freeport, CMA CGM is complicit in these activities.

In August 2011, CMA CGM paid \$374,400 to settle charges of violating trade sanctions against Iran, Sudan and Cuba. If your company would like to avoid additional, more serious violations, I encourage you to fully divest from any and all dealings with Iran. Specifically, I urge CMA CGM to follow the lead of other ports in Europe and close your doors to IRISL and its subsidiaries.

As I have said repeatedly, Iran's duplicitous nature makes it nearly impossible for any shipper to guarantee that it is not in violation of these sanctions. The United States and its allies throughout the world are committed to isolating Iran to effectively prevent its regime from acquiring nuclear weapons. I appreciate your immediate attention to this matter and look forward to hearing that CMA CGM is fully committed to preventing Iran from skirting international law and complying with international sanctions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter T. King", written over a horizontal line.

PETER T. KING  
Member of Congress