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25 June 2013

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIALHon Susan Ryan AO
Age Discrimination Commissioner
Australian Human Rights Commission
Level 3, 175 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Commissioner

Application by Carnival for Further Exemption under Section 44(2) of the Age Discrimination Act 2004 (Cth) ("the Act") - Supplementary Information

We refer to Carnival's application for a further exemption under section 44(2) of the Act, submitted to the Commission on 21 June 2013 (**Application**). Carnival now seeks to supplement the Application with some additional information which has come to light.

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs (**the Committee**) has been undertaking an inquiry into the Arrangements Surrounding Crimes Committed at Sea (**the Inquiry**). The Inquiry focussed upon the jurisdiction and investigation of crimes against the person, including fatal, non-fatal and sexual offences committed on cruise and merchant ships.

On 24 June 2013, the Committee tabled its final report in response to the Inquiry (**the Report**).

Carnival wishes to highlight a number of statements contained in the Report which it considers may be relevant to the Commission's consideration of its Application. At page 59 of the Report, the Committee makes the following statements:

"4.75 Carnival Australia's decision to ban schoolies cruises is a responsible one. However, there is a possibility that other operators will seek to take advantage of the 'schoolies' market and run such cruises in the future. The Committee believes that operating 'schoolies cruises' is irresponsible, and expects that operators, informed by the tragedies of recent years, will refrain from doing so.

4.76 The Committee notes that Carnival Australia will soon have to reapply for an exemption for its schoolies-cruise ban. The Human Rights Commission must consider such an exemption on its merits, and the Committee is fully supportive of Carnival's decision to ban schoolies cruises."

(emphasis added)

Carnival submits that the Commission should take the above statements of the Committee into account when considering its Application. Such statements indicate that the Federal Government is supportive of Carnival's decision to ban its "Schoolies" cruises. Further, it can be inferred from the above statements that the Federal Government is generally supportive of measures taken by cruise operators (including Carnival) which seek to control the irresponsible events commonly associated with "Schoolies" participants. Such measures would include Carnival's operation of its "Unauthorised Events Policy" which is subject of its Application currently being considered by the Commission.

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Please don't hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss the above, or Carnival's Application generally, in more detail.

Yours faithfully,



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