

# Safe Bulkers, Inc. Agrees with the Royal Bank of Scotland plc To Amend a Term Loan Facility

**Monaco**, **Monaco** – **July 21, 2016** -- Safe Bulkers, Inc. (the "Company") (NYSE: SB), an international provider of marine drybulk transportation services, announced today that the Company has agreed with the Royal Bank of Scotland plc (the "RBS") to amend certain financial covenants and terms to an existing term loan facility with an outstanding balance of US \$73.4 million. Following this amendment the term loan facility contains the following:

- The total consolidated liabilities of the Company divided by its total consolidated assets charter inclusive must not exceed 90% until and including year-end 2017 and 85% from 2018 onwards.
- The ratio of the Company's EBITDA<sup>1</sup> to its interest expense must be not less than 2.0:1 on a trailing 12 month basis, applicable from 2018 onwards.
- The consolidated net worth of the Company, defined as total consolidated assets charter inclusive less total consolidated liabilities is waived until and including year-end 2017 and not less than US \$150.0 million from 2018 onwards.
- The aggregate market value of the vessels under the facility divided by the aggregate outstanding loan value must exceed 110% until year-end 2017 and 120% from 2018 onwards.

In addition, the Company has agreed to have the option for a new repayment schedule. The old and the new repayment schedules are presented in the below table:

## Repayment Schedule on annual basis in US\$ million

	2016						
	remaining	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Old schedule	1.9	3.8	3.8	7.1	7.1	49.7	73.4
New schedule	3.8	0.0	0.0	9.0	9.0	51.6	73.4

Dr. Loukas Barmparis, President of the Company, said: "The agreement with RBS is the fifth in a row which provides for alignment of financial covenants and deferral of about \$5.7 million of debt originally payable until 2018, to years after 2019. With this agreement, the amended facilities represent about 76% of our debt, excluding sale and lease back financing arrangements and debt from State institutions."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EBITDA is not a recognized measurement under US GAAP and represents net income before net interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization.

## About Safe Bulkers, Inc.

The Company is an international provider of marine drybulk transportation services, transporting bulk cargoes, particularly coal, grain and iron ore, along worldwide shipping routes for some of the world's largest users of marine drybulk transportation services. The Company's common stock, series B preferred stock, series C preferred stock and series D preferred stock are listed on the NYSE, and trade under the symbols "SB", "SB.PR.B", "SB.PR.C", and "SB.PR.D" respectively.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains forward-looking statements (as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1933, as amended, and in the Section 21E of the Securities Act of 1934, as amended) concerning future events, the Company's growth strategy and measures to implement such strategy, including expected vessel acquisitions and entering into further time charters. Words such as "expects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "anticipates," "hopes," "estimates" and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, no assurance can be given that such expectations will prove to have been correct. These statements involve known and unknown risks and are based upon a number of assumptions and estimates which are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the control of the Company. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include, but are not limited to, changes in the demand for drybulk vessels, competitive factors in the market in which the Company operates, risks associated with operations outside the United States and other factors listed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company expressly disclaims any obligations or undertaking to release any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with respect thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any statement is based.

## For further information please contact:

## **Company Contact:**

Dr. Loukas Barmparis President Safe Bulkers, Inc. Athens, Greece

Tel.: +30 2 111 888 400 Fax: +30 2 111 878 500

E-Mail: directors@safebulkers.com

#### **Investor Relations / Media Contact:**

Nicolas Bornozis, President Capital Link, Inc. 230 Park Avenue, Suite 1536

New York, N.Y. 10169 Tel.: (212) 661-7566
Fax: (212) 661-7526
E-Mail: safebulkers@capitallink.com