



Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry

"Serving Guyana through Commerce and Industry since 1889"

President: Mrs. Kathy S. Smith

July 26, 2026

PRESS RELEASE *by*

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce & Industry *on*

Welcoming the Establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into the MV Barima Tragedy

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The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) welcomes the Government's decision to establish a Commission of Inquiry into the MV Barima tragedy, consistent with the Chamber's earlier call for a thorough, transparent, and evidence-based examination of the circumstances surrounding this tragedy.¹

The Chamber remains deeply mindful that this inquiry follows a national tragedy marked by the tragic loss of life and its profound impact on families and communities. Our thoughts continue to be with the victims, survivors, their families, and everyone affected during this difficult time.

GCCCI also welcomes the appointment of the members of the Commission, whose collective expertise in judicial affairs, marine engineering, maritime surveying and compliance, admiralty and maritime law, and maritime operations and security inspires confidence that the inquiry will be thorough, independent, credible, and evidence-based.

This Commission presents a significant opportunity to ascertain the facts, draw valuable lessons, and build public confidence in the institutions responsible for safeguarding the travelling public. GCCCI believes that its findings and recommendations will inform measures that enhance public safety, strengthen regulatory oversight, and support the continued advancement of Guyana's transport sector.

Beyond the inquiry itself, the Commission's enduring legacy will be defined by the implementation of its recommendations, allowing this tragedy to serve as a catalyst for lasting improvements in public safety, regulatory oversight, and the protection of all who rely on Guyana's transport systems.

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¹ This statement follows the GCCCI's earlier statement, "Statement on the MV Barima Maritime Tragedy," issued on 20 July 2026, in which the Chamber extended its condolences to the victims and their families and called for a thorough, transparent, and evidence-based examination of the circumstances surrounding the tragedy.