

**Notes of meeting of 6th Meeting of  
Hong Kong Fleet Operation Advisory Committee (HKFOAC)**

Date : 19 September 2023 (Tuesday)  
Time : 3:00 p.m. to 4:25 p.m.  
Venue : Room C, 21/F, Marine Department Headquarters,  
Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central

<b>Chairman</b>	Mr. WONG Sai-fat	Deputy Director, Marine Department
<b>Members</b>	Ms. CHAN Pui-shan, Sandy	The Hong Kong Shipowners Association
	Capt. LI Chi-wai	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
	Capt. FENG Zhen	Ocean Longevity Shipping & Management Co., Ltd.
	Mr. Vikram DHINGRA	Pacific Basin Shipping (HK) Limited
	Capt. Abhishek PRASAD	Landbridge Ship Management (HK) Ltd.
	Dr. LEE Wing, Stephanie	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
	Mr. CHAN Kei-kan	COSCO Shipping Container Line Agencies Limited
<b>In- attendance</b>	Capt. Nittin HANDA	The Hong Kong Shipowners Association
	Mr. Thomas FUNG	Amalgamated Union of Seafarers, Hong Kong
<b>MD officials</b>	Mr. TANG Hing-Kong, Jerry	Assistant Director/ Shipping
	Mr. LIU Chiu-fai, Barry	Assistant Director/ Multi-lateral Policy
	Mr. HUANG Zi-hai	Principal Surveyor/ Maritime Policy
	Mr. Jorgen CHOW	Sr Surveyor/Ship Registration Services
<b>Absent with Apology</b>	Mr. NG Ngai-wing, Jammy	General Manager/ Seafarers and Examination
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr. LAM Siu-chan, Teddy	Sr Surveyor/ Quality Assurance

**The Chairman** welcomed all attendees of the meeting.

**Agenda Item 1: Endorsement of Notes of Last Meeting (6 December 2022)**

2. Members endorsed the Notes of Last Meeting.

**Agenda Item 2: Matters Arising**

***(i) Proposal to Streamline the Ship Registration Procedures of the Hong Kong Shipping Registry.***

3. Members discussed the HKFOAC Paper No. 4/2023 with regard to the proposal of setting up a working group (WG) for conducting a comprehensive review of the Merchant Shipping (Registration) Ordinance, Cap.415 and streamline ship registration procedures in order to enhance the competitiveness and the growth of Hong Kong Shipping Registry (HKSR). With views exchanged, members agreed that the WG with members not limited to HKFOAC's members given further consideration of inviting representatives from P&I and ship finance sectors should be established in October 2023, aiming to complete the work within 2023. The WG should also take consideration of formulating any incentive measures to encourage more shipowners to place vessels with the HKSR.

**Agenda Item 3: Legislation Work**

***(i) Update of legislation amendments made from last meeting***

4. MD presented the summary tables on legislative exercises conducted in 2022-2023. In general, a total of seven legislation work was completed which covered the areas including the use of electronic certificates on Hong Kong registered ships; water level detectors on multiple hold cargo ships; survival craft embarkation and launching arrangements, scuppers, inlets and discharges; condition of equilibrium after flooding; radiocommunication; life-saving appliances; and subdivision and damage stability.

***(ii) & (iii) Legislation Progress & Coming Legislation Work***

5. MD further presented the summary tables on legislative exercises that are in

progress from the last meeting. These four legislative exercises covered the making of a new Regulation for ships carrying Industrial Personnel to comply with the requirements of the new SOLAS Chapter XV and IP Code; fee charge for carrying out relevant surveys on a ship for the issue of or endorsement of an IP Safety Certificate; adopting the Mediterranean Sea as an Emission Control Area; lowering the threshold of the ship's GT for carrying a Garbage Record Book onboard; and the MLC 2022 Amendment. The coming legislation exercises for the amendments to IMSBC Code, STCW Code, BWM Convention to be in force in 2025, and the amendments to SOLAS, IGC Code, IGF Code, LSA Code and HSC Code came into force in 2026 will also be conducted.

6. **Ms. CHAN Pui-shan, Sandy from The Hong Kong Shipowners Association** enquired about the progress of legislation of Hong Kong Convention. **The Chairman** expressed that the preparation of instructions for law drafting work for the Hong Kong Convention is completed pending the Central People's Government (CPG)'s direction.

#### **Agenda Item 4: A.O.B.**

##### ***(i) 33rd Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) Annual General Meeting***

7. **Ms. CHAN Pui-shan, Sandy from The Hong Kong Shipowners Association** shared to the members that the next ASA's AGM including an International Shipping Forum will be held in Hong Kong at 27-29 May 2024. The Secretary-General of IMO, Mr. Arsenio Antonio Dominguez Velasco, has accepted the invitation to participate the forum on 28 May 2024.

##### ***(ii) Time limit for the overriding of SHaPoLi/ EPL system***

8. **Capt. Nittin HANDA from The Hong Kong Shipowners Association** enquired on the exemption time allowed for overriding power limitation of the ShaPoLi/ EPL system. On this subject, MD had recently met with ROs and stated clear that MD will follow the IMO guidelines. MD does not limit ships from overriding the power limitation of the ShaPoLi/ EPL system in certain situations, but ships should maintain proper records when the override is activated and report to the Administration or the responsible RO.

9. **The Chairman** expressed the gratitude to the current members of HKFOAC

for the service of this tenure. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. The date of the next meeting would be announced in due course.

**Marine Department  
December 2023**