

**Hong Kong Fleet Operation Advisory Committee**

**Proposal to amend the Subsidiary Legislation to the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Ordinance for the Implementation of the Amendments of 2018 to the Code of Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this paper is to seek members' views on and endorsement of the proposal to amend the subsidiary legislation under the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Ordinance (Cap. 478) for the implementation of the Amendments of 2018 to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006).

**Background**

2. The 107<sup>th</sup> session of the International Labour Conference of the International Labour Organization approved the Amendments of 2018 to the MLC, 2006 on 5 June 2018 (as enclosed) to:

- (a) provide respective meanings of the terms '*piracy*' and '*armed robbery against ships*';
- (b) prevent the cancellation or expiry of seafarers' employment agreements during periods of captivity; and
- (c) protect the wages and other entitlements provided for in those agreements.

## **The Proposal**

3. In order to keep in line with the international standards applicable to Hong Kong ships, we propose to prepare the amendments to the subsidiary legislation under the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Ordinance (Cap. 478) for the timely implementation of the Amendments of 2018 to the MLC, 2006 which is expected to enter into force in December 2020.

## **Consultation**

4. Members' comments on, if any, and endorsement of our proposal are hereby sought.

Marine Department

Multi-lateral Policy Division

January 2019

Enclosure: Amendments of 2018 to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006)