

**NOTES FOR THE 26th MEETING OF THE
HIGH SPEED CRAFT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (HSCCC)**

Date: 24 March 2023

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Conference Room A, 24/F, Marine Department Headquarters, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Present

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| Mr. CHOI Chi-chuen | Assistant Director/Shipping, Marine Department (Chairman) |
| Mr. LUI Kam-leung | General Manager/Ship Safety Branch |
| Mr. CHENG Yiu-kwong, Winson | Senior Surveyor /Passenger Ships Safety |
| Capt. CHEUNG Sai-teng | Hong Kong Seamen's Union |
| Mr. HUNG Kwok-hung | HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector |
| Capt. TSE Yiu-wing, Tommy | HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector |
| Capt. WAN Chi-kwong, Eddie | HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector |
| Ms. CHAN Man-kuen | Lay Member |
| Mr. YUEN Ming-kwan | Secretary |

In Attendance

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| Mr. HUANG Zihai | Senior Surveyor/ Marine Accident Investigation |
| Capt. Cheung Wing-tak | Stand-in Representative for Capt. CHUNG Tung-tong of Merchant Navy Officers' Guild |
| Mr Au Yeung Kam-lung | Stand-in Representative for Mr. LAI Ming-hong of Amalgamated Union of Seafarers |

Absent with Apology

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| Ms. WONG Ka-ming, Grace | Assistant Secretary for Transport & Logistics 10B |
| Mr. CHEN Chao-cheng | HK-Mainland High Speed Craft Sector |
| Mr. ZHANG Hua | HK-Mainland High Speed Craft Sector |
| Ms WONG Mei-po, Mabel | Lay Member |

Opening Remarks

The **Chairman** welcomed all to the meeting. He invited members to disclose and declare any direct personal or pecuniary interest in relations to any of the agenda item in the meeting. No conflict of interests was recorded from the floor.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of Last Meeting Notes

2. Since no comment was received from the members, the **Chairman** thus endorsed the notes of last meeting that held on 28 October 2021.

Agenda Item 2: Casualty and Personal Accident Statistics onboard Hong Kong registered High Speed Craft (HSC)

3. **Mr. HUANG Zi-hai from MD** reported that there were six accidents related to HSC were reported in the period from 29 October 2021 to 23 March 2023. Five of them were related to occupational safety after the resumption of normal cross-boundary ferry services between February and March 2023. All these accidents were minor in nature.

4. **Mr. HUNG Kowk-hung from HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector** noted the accidents. To avoid recurrence and improve safety standard on board, he agreed to raise the safety awareness among crew members and implement improvement measures. The **Chairman** thanked HSC operators for their efforts and reminded them to stay vigilant on safety matters.

Agenda Item 3: Circulation of HSCCC Papers since Last Meeting

5. The **Chairman** concluded that there were six (6) HSCCC papers circulated to the members from 29 October 2021 to 23 March 2023. The comments from members were well received and replied by related parties.

6. The **Chairman** mentioned that the Hong Kong's first offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) receiving terminal will be put into operation in the near future. He reminded members to pay attention to relevant navigation safety after the terminal is in operation.

7. **Mr. LUI Kam-leung from MD** updated the latest progress related to HSCCC Paper No. 7/2021, "Collaboration Mechanism for Safety Inspection of Non-Convention Vessels in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Guangxi". The collaboration mechanism is expected to be put in operation in 2024.

8. The **Chairman** supplemented that the purpose of this mechanism is to avoid repeated safety inspections of HSC at ports in the Greater Bay Area, and to alleviate the burden of HSC operators while effectively maintaining the safe operation of HSC in the Greater Bay Area.

A.O.B.

9. **Capt. WAN Chi-kwong, Eddie from HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector** observed that most of the Marine Department Notices (MDNs) were not promulgated simultaneously in Chinese and English. He suggested that, if time permits, MDNs in both languages should be published at the same time to ensure the navigation safety in the first instance. The **Chairman** responded that the recommendations will be conveyed to the respective divisions for appropriate action.

10. **Capt. CHEUNG Sai-teng from the Hong Kong Seamen's Union** observed that the operation of HSC had been affected by the recent development of “Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park” and “Hong Kong International Airport Third Runway”. ~~The Route No. 1 and 2 for Hong Kong and Macau will be affected. This route is frequently selected to avoid the rough weather and heavy swell during passage of typhoons and strong monsoon.~~ He suggested that more consideration be given to the impact on the operation of HSC when casting new developments. The **Chairman** responded that the suggestion will be conveyed to the respective government department for appropriate action.

11. **Mr. LUI Kam-leung from MD** mentioned that the Chief Executive of HKSARG announced the lifting of travel restrictions on 8 January 2023, and the cross-boundary ferry services resumed on the same day. MD expressed gratitude to the industry for resuming the cross-boundary ferry services swiftly. Meanwhile, MD will continue to facilitate safe and efficient services to HSC operators and members of the public.

12. **Mr. HUNG Kwok-hung from HK-Macau High Speed Craft Sector** pointed out that the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal currently allows for only one HSC to berth or depart at a time after the resumption of cross-boundary ferry services. He suggested that the terminal control should consider reverting to pre-COVID-19 arrangements. The **Chairman** replied that the suggestion will be conveyed to the respective division for appropriate action.

13. **Mr. LUI Kam-leung from MD** addressed that maritime administrations in the Greater Bay Area intended to unify the technical requirements for cross-boundary HSC operating in the area. The unified technical requirements will be mainly applicable to new HSC. Members will be informed on the details in due course.

14. The **Chairman** stated that under the terms and conditions of the HSCCC some members would have completed their service in November 2023. He thanked them for their service during the current session. At the same time, the **Chairman** wished that the re-

nominated members will continue to serve on HSCCC. The final appointment will be announced in due course.

Date of Next Meeting

15. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am. Date of the next meeting would be announced in due course.

Secretariat

Shipping Division

Marine Department

March 2023