LVAC Paper No. 11/2009

LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Assessment of Typhoon Shelter Space Requirements (Submission of Draft Report)

Introduction

This paper is to submit to the Committee the draft report on the study to update the assessment on typhoon shelter space requirements. Members will be asked to provide comments on the draft report and to indicate whether they agree with it.

Background

2. Marine Department periodically conducts assessment on the existing and projected situation of demand and supply of space for local vessels to take shelter during typhoons. The report on the previous assessment exercise was issued in February 2005, covering the period 2004 ~ 2021. An exercise is being undertaken to update the findings in the previous assessment report.

The Draft Report

3. A full copy of the draft report is attached at Annex.

Structure of the Draft Report

4. The draft report comprises an Executive Summary, the main report body and a number of Appendices. The Executive Summary provides a summary of the key findings of the study. The main report body has 15 sections, which discuss the various relevant issues under the respective section headings. The Appendices provide detailed information, particularly the numerical information; to enable readers to obtain a more in-depth understanding and a better appreciation of the issues under discussion.

Points Highlighted for Attention

5. The following are explanations set out to facilitate reading the draft report as well as to highlight some points for attention.

Content	Explanation
Background *(paras 2 ~ 4)*	This section provides the background information about the study. It points out the forecasting horizon of this updating exercise is extended to year 2025.
Coverage *(paras 5 ~ 9)*	This section explains the types of vessels and the amounts of typhoon sheltering space included in and excluded from the study. The coverage is essentially the same as the previous study. However the assessment on demand and supply of typhoon shelter space for pleasure vessel is presented separately in an appendix.
Data Source & Vessel Classification *(paras 10 ~ 11)*	The section on Data Source establishes the cogency of the data concerning vessels and demand calculations used in the report. Para 11 explains how the vessels are grouped together, namely in six categories, for calculation of future demand.
Forecasting Methodology & Limitations *(paras 12 ~ 15)*	The principle behind the regression modeling technique employed for projection of future demand is explained here, with the limitations of the methodology spelled out. Para 14 explains the measure, of using short-term growth rate forecasts, to mitigate the effect of the limitations.
Forecasting Parameters & Basis *(paras 16 ~ 19)*	The section on Forecasting Parameters shows all the variables adopted in the forecasting model as well as the data sources. All the data are obtained from authoritative sources in publications issued by the Government. Para 18 & 19 set out the forecasting basis, which are consistent with those in the previous similar studies.

Demand Calculation *(paras 20 ~ 22)*	The existing demand for typhoon sheltering space as of 1.1.2009 is calculated to be 338.1 hectares. Future demand is forecasted to grow annually at a compound rate of about 0.5% or a simple average rate of 1.6 hectares. The projected demand by 2025 is established to be 366.0 hectares.
Supply Calculation *(paras 23 ~ 27)*	The existing supply of typhoon sheltering space as of 1.1.2009 is calculated to be 403.5 hectares. The supply will only be slightly affected by some development projects, and by 2025 the supply will be 401.9 hectares.
Matching of Demand and Supply *(paras 28 ~ 29)*	The results of matching the demand and supply show an existing excess of 65.4 hectares or 16.2% of typhoon sheltering space. The excess will gradually decrease to 35.9 hectares or 8.9% by 2025.
Length Restriction *(paras 30 ~ 37)*	This section discusses the length restriction of typhoon shelters and explores an option of extending the 50-metre permitted length of the Hei Ling Chau Typhoon Shelter to 75-metre to cater for the trades' needs.
Use of Typhoon Shelters *(paras 38 ~ 42)*	This section discusses some general issues concerning the use and control of typhoon shelters.
Conclusion *(paras 43 ~ 46)*	It is concluded in this section that with the present supply of typhoon sheltering space the demand, both existing and projected to 2025, can be adequately met. It is also concluded that the local vessel traders' demand for allowing vessels over 50-metre in length to use typhoon shelters could be met by amending the permitted length of Hei Ling Chau Typhoon Shelter to 75 metres.

Advice Sought

6. Members are requested to provide comments on and indicate whether they agree with the draft report on the study to update the assessment on typhoon shelter space requirements.

Further Action

7. The draft report on assessment of typhoon shelter space requirements is being submitted to this Committee and Port Operations Committee for comments and agreement. Following established practice on consultation with advisory bodies pertaining to planning and disposal strategies for port facilities, the draft report will be further submitted to the Port Development Council for endorsement. The exercise on updating the typhoon shelter space assessment will be considered as having been completed after endorsement of the report.

Presentation

8. Mr. Y. H. LEE, Senior Statistician will present this paper to the Committee.

Marine Department
June 2009