

Ref. : HQ/COM 928/29 (13)

Minutes of a meeting of the Pilotage Advisory Committee

Date : 31 July 1997

Place: Conference Room (A), MD HQs

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Present

Chairman :	Mr. S.Y. TSUI	Deputy Director of Marine
Member :	Capt. Alan Loynd	Master Mariner
	Capt. Duncan Telfer	Master Mariner
	Mr. CHEUNG Hi-loi	Representing the Hong Kong Pilots Association
	Mr. LAM Tsan-wa	Representing the Hong Kong Pilots Association
	Capt. LEE Tai-kuen	Representing H. K. Liner Shipping Association
	Mr. Michael Sandpearl	Representing the Container Terminal Operators
	Mr. Y.O. CHOR	Master Mariner
	Mr. K.C. LI	Representing the Oil Terminal Operators
	Mr. K. M. LEE	Marine Department
	Mr. M.J. Wareham	"
Secretary :	Mr. K. W. CHAN	"

In Attendance

Mr. P.J. WU	HK Pilots Association Ltd.
Mr. PAU Sai-hung	"
Mr. YEUNG Man-chor	"
Mr. Terence SIT	HK General Chamber of Commerce
Mr. LI Wai-man	Orient Overseas Container Lines Ltd.
Mr. H. P. LIU	Marine Department

Absent with Apologies

Capt. Christopher Keen	Representing the HK Shipowner's Association
Mr. S.K. NGAN	Representing the Break Bulk Cargo Operators
Mr. YU Minghua	Representing Tug Operators
Mr. George Windram	Representing Dockyard Industry
Mr. Roger Tupper	Marine Department

I. Chairman's opening remarks

- M1588 1. The Chairman welcomed all members introduced the following -
- (i) Mr. K. M. LEE, Marine Department, vice Mr. S. K. Anand; and
 - (ii) Capt. LI Wai-man, Orient Overseas Container Lines Ltd., attending the meeting as an observer for the first time.

II. Confirmation minutes of the last meeting

- M1589 2. There were two proposed amendments -
- (i) Para. 4, line 3 : the word `recommendation` be amended to `reclamation`; and
 - (ii) Para. 5, line 5 : to replace `TDD via the consultants` with `Planning Department.`

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 May 1997 were confirmed without further amendments.

III. Matters arising form previous minutes

- (i) Review of the Round Island (Ngan Chau) Pilot Boarding Station (M1576 refers)

- M1590 3. Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported that the operation at Round Island PBS was very satisfactory since the Phase I implementation apart from the south-westerly wind which had caused some inconvenience in two recent days. He envisaged that there should be sufficient pilots for the implementation of Phase II and he was of the view that Phase III could properly be brought forward of the schedule.

4. Mr. PAU further reported that they have applied to the Government Property Agency for the leasing of the Ap Li Chau site on a short term tenancy, apparently they would be charged full market rent with a further condition that HKPA would have to demolish the existing building when the tenancy was expired. The Chairman informed the meeting that Marine Department had given the full support and GPA should take all these factors into consideration when deciding the rent.

- (ii) Pilotage Dues Review (M1577 refers)

- M1591 5. The Chairman urged HKPA and HKLSA to expedite their negotiation on the pilotage dues for 1988. He reminded them that the Provisional Legislative Council had already got a very full agenda and it would be difficult to book for a slot for the revision of dues. Implementation of the revised dues might be delayed if a decision could not be reached in September 97.

- (iii) Ma Wan Container Transit (M1578 refers)

- M1592 6. The Chairman informed members that since the endorsement of vessels up to

295m transiting Ma Wan day and night, there was request to further extend the length of vessels up to 300m. Mr. PAU Sai-hung replied that depending on the situation some flexibility would be exercised by pilots on the length of vessels that they handled. A further 5m in length should not cause a major concern. The Chairman agreed that the technicalities would be handled by the Working Group and this item could be deleted from the agenda.

(iv) **Performance measure of Pilots** (M1579 refers)

M1593 7. Mr. K.W. CHAN informed members that a 'Pilot's Passage Planning Chart' was presented at the last Working Group meeting held on 16 July 1997. Purpose of the Chart would be to strengthen the communication between pilots and masters. In the mean time, he would carry on to discuss with HKPA in order to develop some performance criteria to be used. Chairman reminded members the investigation report on the 'Sea Empress' incident in UK, he then stressed the importance of passage planning and urged members to send in their suggestions/views.

(v) **Medical examination of pilots** (M1586 refers)

M1594 8. The Chairman informed members that approval had been granted by the Pilotage Authority to allow pilots to attend medical examinations conducted by a panel of private medical practitioners who must be those authorized under the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) (Medical Examination) Regulation, this arrangement would be commenced on 1 September 1997.

(vi) **Opening of consultative committee meetings to the public** (M1565 refers)

M1595 9. The Chairman informed members that decision was made by the Provisional Legislative Council that Government advisory/consultative bodies should be made more transparent. Therefore all Marine Department advisory/consultative committees including the PAC would be opened to the public with effect from 1 July 1997. An information paper with the prescribed procedures was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

10. Members were concerned about the line to take in deciding the classification of papers. The Chairman confirmed that a paper would be classified 'restricted or confidential' when a member suggested such classification. Capt. Alan Loynd commented that the procedures could be fine tuned further down the road.

(vii) **Berthing Guideline Amendments**

M1596 11. The following berthing guideline amendments were submitted by the Working Group and endorsed by members -

- (a) to employ one escort tug for container & passenger ships of LOA 230m and over transiting Ma Wan and to Kwai Chung container terminals;

- (b) for large container & passenger ships of LOA 250m and over, one escort tug from Kellett buoy will escort the vessel all the way passing Ma Wan until such time that the pilot can release her according to the prevailing traffic situation; and
- (c) for container ships of LOA 230m and over going to Kwai Chung container terminals, the escort tug will start from Green Island up to the berth together with other tug/tugs at the berth to assist berthing.

(viii) IMPA meeting in Shanghai (M1585 refers)

- M1597 12. About the forthcoming IMPA meeting held in Shanghai in November 1998, Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported that further details would be provided to members when available. The Chairman informed members that Marine Department was in full support of this meeting and should have one or two papers to be presented in that occasion.

VI. Any Other Business

(i) Farewell to member

- M1598 13. The Chairman informed members that Mr. Raymond LO, representative of dry bulk cargo operators, had resigned from the PAC on 1 July 1997. A joint-nomination for his successor would be made by Hong Kong Electric and China Light in due course.
14. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:30 a.m.

VII. Date of next meeting

- M1599 15. The date of next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, 8 October 1997 at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room A, 24/F., Marine Department HQs, Harbour Building. (Post meeting note : the date of next meeting was postponed to 22 October 1997)