

Ref. : HQ/COM 928/29 (14)

Minutes of a meeting of the Pilotage Advisory Committee

Date : 25 November 1998

Place: Conference Room (A), MD HQs

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Present

Chairman :	Mr. M. C. TSANG	Deputy Director of Marine
Member :	Capt. Alan Loynd	Master Mariner
	Capt. Duncan Telfer	Master Mariner
	Mr. Y.O. CHOR	Master Mariner
	Mr. CHEUNG Hi-loi	Representing the Hong Kong Pilots Association
	Mr. PAU Sai-hung	Representing the Hong Kong Pilots Association
	Capt. LEE Tai-kuen	Representing H. K. Liner Shipping Association
	Mr. John LEE	Representing the Container Terminal Operators
	Capt. WU Ka-shun	Representing Tug Operators
	Mr. K. M. LEE	Marine Department
	Mr. T. C. SIN	"
	Mr. M.J. Wareham	"
Secretary :	Mr. Michael YEUNG	"

In Attendance

Mr. Terence SIT	HK General Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Kenneth CHOW	China Light & Power
Capt. CHEUNG Hon-yee	OOCL
Mr. P.J. WU	HK Pilots Association Ltd.
Mr. LAM Tsan-wa	"
Mr. YEUNG Man-chor	"
Mr. WONG Wing-hung	Marine Department
Mr. George KWOK	"

Apologies

Mr. WONG Tat-keung	Representing Dry Bulk Cargo Operators
Mr. George Windram	Representing Dockyard Industry
Mr. Rolo Stokkmo	Representing the Oil Terminal Operators
Capt. CHEN Shi-zhou	Representing Break Bulk Cargo Operators

I. Chairman's Opening Remarks

M1650 1. The Chairman welcomed Capt. WU Ka-shun representing tug operators vice Mr. YU Minghua and Capt. CHEUNG Hon-yeo attending the meeting as an observer.

II. Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting

M1651 2. The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 1998 were confirmed with no amendments.

III. Matters arising from previous minutes

(i) Review of the Round Island (Ngan Chau) Pilot Boarding Station (M1644 refers)

M1652 3. Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported that there were sufficient resources to cope with the Phase III operation since its implementation on 1 October 1998. HKPA would report at the next meeting their final decision on the lease of the Ap Lei Chau site. Mr. T. C. SIN added that the operation was found smooth and successful, another PBS would eventually be set up at the West Lamma Channel before the deletion of the Green Island PBS.

(ii) Performance Measure of Pilots (M1646 refers)

M1653 4. Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported that the 14th IMPA Conference was held in Shanghai from 9th to 13th November 1998. They gathered from their counterparts that they were generally using accident rates to assess pilots' performance. The meeting agreed to explore some more indicators before a final decision would be made.

III. Any Other Business

(i) PAC Paper No. 9/98 "Duty Pilots at the VTC"

M1654 5. Mr. George KWOK presented the paper which served to explain the rationale behind the recommendation to put the VTC pilot scheme on hold. Members exchanged their views on both sides of the coin. In addition to the explanations provided in the paper, the following views were made -

a. There was no evidence from past accidents to show the positive correlation between those accidents and the lack of a VTC pilot.

b. The situation had changed since 1993 and the need for a VTC pilot was reduced due to factors such as advancement of technology in both communication and tug equipment.

c. Implementation of the VTC pilot scheme would inevitably incur fee increase as a result.

d. A marine officer who must be a master mariner would be in-charge of the VTC at all times, therefore different from other ports where their vessel traffic regulators need not be seafarers.

6. However, the Chairman agreed to review the past accidents and provide statistics for members' further consideration.

(ii) Year 2000 Problem

M1655

7. Mr. WONG Wing-hung presented Marine Department's strategy on handling of the problem. He informed the meeting that the work had been started since mid 1997 and the rectification plans would be completed by October 1999, furthermore, contingency plans had also been prepared for critical systems. Further information would be available from the Government's Year 2000 Internet web site - [http://www.gov.hk](#) and the marine specific Internet web site constructed by the Lloyds Register - [http://www.lloydsregister.com](#). Mr. PAU Sai-hung added that HKPA had recently renewed their computer which would stand Year 2000.

(iii) Exemption of Compulsory Pilotage for Vessels to/from Yantian without calling Hong Kong

M1656

8. Mr. George KWOK reported the recommendation made by PAC WG on the granting of a blanket exemption to the vessels moving to/from Yantian without calling Hong Kong. The meeting endorsed the recommendation.

(iv) DNV Certificate

M1657

9. Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported that HKPA was awarded with a DNV Certificate on 1 November 1998, it would be the first recognition of this kind ever presented to pilots organisations over the world.

(v) Resolutions carried by IMPA Shanghai Conference

M1658

10. Mr. PAU Sai-hung reported the four resolutions carried by the 14th IMPA Shanghai Conference on 13 November 1998 for members' information. The resolutions were attached at Appendix I.

(vi) Outstanding Pilotage Dues

M1659

11. Mr. PAU Sai-hung informed the meeting that HKPA would try to arrest a vessel which owed them pilotage dues for around \$400,000 on 25 November 1998. He requested Marine Department to refuse the granting of port clearance to that vessel in accordance with Section 13, Part IV of the Pilotage Ordinance. The Chairman noted the request.

V. Date of next meeting

M1660 12. The date of next meeting was scheduled to be held on 27 January 1999.