

# PILOTAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ref. : HQ/COM 928/29 (18)

## Minutes of the Pilotage Advisory Committee Meeting

Date : 2 March 2006 (Thursday)  
Place : Conference Room A, 24/F, Harbour Building  
Time : 3 p.m.

### Present

Chairman:	Mr. R F TUPPER	Deputy Director of Marine
Member:	Capt. Joseph FONSEKA	Master Mariner
	Capt. LI Kwan-wood	Master Mariner
	Mr. NG Jim-mi, Jimmy	Master Mariner
	Mr. Harry LAM	Representing Containers Terminal Operators
	Mr. Edward CHIU	Representing Dry Bulk Cargo Operators
	Mr. Peter YIM	Representing HK Liner Shipping Association
	Capt. CHEN Yu-chi	Representing HK Pilots Association
	Capt. LAM Tsan-wa <i>(on behalf of Capt. PAU Sai-hung)</i>	Representing HK Pilots Association
	Mr. CHENG Siu-lun	Representing Oil Terminal Operators
	Capt. Alan LOYND	Representing Tug Operators
	Mr. TONG Ho-lok	S/MAI(1), Marine Department
Secretary:	Ms. Shirley HO	ADS/C&G, Marine Department

### In Attendance

Mr. Terence SIT	HK General Chamber of Commerce
Capt. LAW Kwun-pan	HK Pilots Association (HKPA)
Capt. SHAM Yiu-tong	- ditto -
Mr. SHUM Yum-pui	- ditto -

### Absent with Apologies

Mr. Bengt William CLAEISSON	Representing Break Bulk Cargo Operators
Mr. LI Pok-yan	Representing Dockyard Industry
Mr. YOUNG Yick-sing	Representing HK Shipowners Association
Mr. NG Kin-man	AD/PC (Ag), Marine Department
Mr. BUTT Lee-yuen	GM/VTS(Ag), Marine Department
Mr. Andrew NG	MO/Pilotage, Marine Department

## **OPENING REMARKS**

1. The Chairman welcomed all present. He extended particular welcome to the following –
  - (a) Mr. Peter YIM, who was newly appointed as PAC member vice Mr. WONG Yiu-kwong, representing the Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association;
  - (b) Capt. LAM Tsan-wa who was attending the meeting on behalf of Capt. PAU Sai-hung; and
  - (c) Capt. SHAM Yiu-tong from the Hong Kong Pilots Association.
  
2. The Chairman told the meeting that the following members and observers were not able to attend the meeting and had sent apologies for absence –
  - (a) Mr. Bengt CLAEISSON
  - (b) Mr. LI Pok-yan
  - (c) Mr. YOUNG Yick-sing
  - (d) Mr. NG Kin-man
  - (e) Mr. BUTT Lee-yuen
  - (f) Mr. Andrew NG

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **I. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting**

3. Members agreed to the following proposed amendments to the minutes of last meeting –

Para. 5, line 4

To replace “tracking arrangements” with “*trucking* arrangements”.

Para. 7, line 1

To amend the sentence to read as “Capt. CHEN Yu-chi confirmed that his only concern was *on the small LPG berth of Mobil at the eastern end*”.

Para. 8, last line

To replace “working area” with “*seafront*”.

Para. 9, line 1

To replace “strong objections” with “*deep concern*”.

Para. 9, line 3

To correct the typo of “Qualitative” to “*Quantitative*”.

Para. 12, line 8

To replace “agree to conform and give up” with “agree to conform *or* give up”.

Para. 12, line 12

To delete “Before the PAC, all parties concerned would be involved”.

Para. 12, line 14

To correct the typo of “strive” to “*strike*”.

Para. 13, line 5

To add an “s” after “concern” and to delete “e.g. there were ..... from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.”.

4. The Chairman said that the Secretary would arrange to revise the minutes of last meeting according and upload it onto the Marine Department website.

## **II. Interviewing of Apprentice Pilots**

5. Two applicants, Mr. Bruce CHUN and Mr. YUEN Tai-ming, who had already passed the necessary medical examination, were asked in separate sessions to introduce themselves and answer questions from the members.

6. Members were satisfied with Mr. Bruce CHUN's performance, qualifications and experience. They agreed to recommend him to the Pilotage Authority for registration as apprentice pilot.
7. As to Mr. YUEN Tai-ming, upon the request from the HKPA, a letter signed by 30 licensed pilots expressing views on the substantiality of his deep sea experience acquired was tabled for members' information and discussion before interviewing Mr. YUEN. Members had a lengthy and active discussion over Mr. YUEN's qualifications, experience and performance.
8. The Chairman confirmed with members that under existing legislation a person applying for registration as an apprentice pilot should, amongst other requirements, hold a Certificate of Competency (Deck Officer) Class 1 (Master Mariner) accepted by the Hong Kong Administration. As bilateral undertakings had been signed with New Zealand under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping, certificates issued by New Zealand were recognized by the Hong Kong Administration as equivalent. The Marine Department had checked with the issuing authority which had verified Mr. YUEN's certificate before considering his application. The Chairman opined that, if members were not fully comfortable with Mr. YUEN's deep sea experience, he would suggest the HKPA to give him a full 6-month intensive apprentice training.
9. Capt. Y C CHEN enquired if a small committee should be formed to design the training scheme for Mr. YUEN. The Chairman replied in the negative and said that the HKPA with any specific advice from PAC was best placed to oversee the apprenticeship for Mr. YUEN as he was already a member of the Association.
10. It was agreed and concluded that Mr. YUEN's application should be accepted on the basis that, the HKPA would closely monitor Mr. YUEN's performance during the 6-month apprentice pilot training, keep PAC informed of his progress and alert PAC if additional training was considered necessary before he could sit for his upgrading examination.

11. The Chairman said that a reply would be sent to those 30 pilots individually to explain the stand and the decision of the PAC. The draft reply would be circulated to PAC members for comments. Subject to members' agreement, he would represent the PAC to sign and issue the letter.

(Post-meeting notes: A letter replying to the letter signed by 30 licensed pilots was issued on 31 March 2006.)

12. Mr. H L TONG added that, if the HKPA considered that the minimum requirements/qualifications for registration of an apprentice pilot should be reviewed and revised, the HKPA could liaise with the Marine Department for working out the necessary legislative amendments. The Chairman pointed out that, if there should be a change, it should be arranged and made in a step by step and well thought-out way.
13. The Chairman rounded up that he would recommend Mr. YUEN to the Pilotage Authority for registration of apprentice pilot with the riders made in the above paragraph 10.

(Post-meeting notes: With the approval from the Pilotage Authority, Mr. YUEN and Mr. CHUN, registered as apprentice pilots on 6 March 2006.)

### **III. Discussion Item**

#### **PAC Paper No. 3/2006 – “Framework for Class I Pilots Continued Proficiency Development Programme”**

14. Mr. Jimmy NG, the Chairman of the PAC Working Group on Training and Certification for Pilots, presented the paper in details. He sought members' advice and endorsement on the proposed framework for Class I Pilots Continued Proficiency Development Programme (CPDP) attached to the paper and particularly paragraph 5 of the paper.

15. Upon enquiries from Capt. LI Kwan-wood, the Chairman replied that the CPDP would be arranged and delivered by the HKPA. Capt. LAM Tsan-wa confirmed that the series of courses on the four theoretical operational aspects and ship handling simulator exercises would be organized a few times within the 5-year cycle. He therefore considered that there would be sufficient chances for the Class I pilots to attend all of them and they would not miss any one of the courses.
16. Members had no particular comments on the contents of the CPDP in Annex I of the paper and gave an unanimous endorsement to the framework for the CPDP.
17. As regards the advice required as stated in paragraph 5 of the paper, the Chairman suggested and Capt. LAM Tsan-wa concurred that the HKPA might take one year to work out the details of the courses and aimed to commence the CPDP in March 2007. Matters related to the CPDP could be approved by the PAC and the HKPA would submit to the Pilotage Authority the training record of the pilots when the pilot's license had to be renewed annually. The Chairman said that MO/Pilotage would monitor the situation and advise the PAC if and when necessary.

#### **IV. Any Other Business**

18. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:05 p.m.

#### **V. Date of Next Meeting**

19. The date of next meeting would be announced in due course.