

## PILOTAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Relocation of Urmston Road Pilot Boarding Station

#### **The Problem**

In the past twelve months, six accidents have happened in the Urmston Road involving vessels waiting for either Hong Kong or Shekou pilots.

#### **The Solution**

2. In order to improve traffic safety in the Urmston Road, the Marine Department has discussed the issue with the Shekou Traffic Control Centre, Shekou Pilotage Authority and Hong Kong Pilots Association. All parties concurred that accidents in the Urmston Road would be avoided if the pilotage service between Hong Kong and Shekou could hand over directly to each other.

#### **The Proposal**

3. In pursuance of the above conclusion, the Marine Department proposes to extend the pilotage service area at Urmston Road by relocating the Pilot Boarding Station about 1.5 nautical miles north of the existing position. The proposed pilot boarding station is indicated on the attached plan. Procedures have been established to match the timing for disembarking the pilot from the port of origin and boarding a pilot of the next port. Furthermore, a waiting ship will be taken to anchor at the Urmston Road Anchorage by the pilot from the port of origin and a pilot of the next port will pilot her to the destination.

#### **Action Required**

4. The purpose of this paper is to seek members' endorsement of the new Urmston Road Pilot Boarding Station in 22°24.92' N 113°53.34' E and to amend item 3 in Schedule 2 of the Pilotage Ordinance (Chapter 84) accordingly.

#### **Presentation**

5. This paper will be presented by Mr. C.K. YEUNG of the Marine Department.

