

## **Pilotage Advisory Committee**

### **Special Traffic Management Scheme for Kwai Chung Basin during Foggy Weather**

The Kwai Chung basin is becoming more confined in space both during the present stage of Terminal 9 construction and when it is in operation. Larger and lengthier and often deep draft container vessels are frequent users of the facilities. The heavy traffic along the Northern Fairway south of the Tsing Yi Island will hinder the safe manoeuvring of big container vessels approaching to and departing from the Kwai Chung basin, in particular during restricted visibility conditions.

2. In order to enhance navigation safety, it is proposed that a Special Traffic Management Scheme (STMS) shall be established between Kwai Chung basin extending through the Northern Fairway south of Tsing Yi to west of "Kellet West" buoy in the Western Fairway during periods of restricted visibility situation. The STMS consists of one-way traffic control management for inbound and outbound container vessels. During restricted visibility ie. below 0.5 n.m. inbound and outbound vessels would enter and leave the Kwai Chung Basin in a convoy pattern. The STMS would be controlled and monitored by the Vessel Traffic Centre. The Vessel Traffic Centre would liaise and inform all parties concerned during the STMS operation.

3. This paper is to seek members' endorsement on the proposed Special Traffic Management Scheme.

Pilotage Unit

Vessel Traffic Centre

5 March 2001