

PROVISIONAL LOCAL VESSEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting of
the Committee held on 1 June 1998
at 2:30p.m. in the District Board Committee Room
Room 1416 at 14 Floor of Harbour Building**

Present

M.C. TSANG	Deputy Director of Marine	(Chairman)
Peter J.S. CHENG	Managing Director Peter Cheng Naval Architect & Marine Consultant Ltd.	
CHOI Kim-lui	Executive Director New Moonraker Motorboat Co. Ltd.	
Keith Choules	Executive Director HK Outward Bound School	
David C.S. HO	General Manager Hong Kong & Yaumatei Ferry Co. Ltd.	
HO Kwun-yin	Secretary Harbour Transportation Workers General Union	
HUNG Bing	Chairman Small Craft Workers Union	
KEUNG Yin-man	Chairman H.K. & Kowloon Floating Fishermen Welfare Promotion Association	
James SHUEN	Executive Director Floata Group of Companies	
Vitus K. SZETO	General Manager A. Fai Engineers & Shiprepairers Ltd.	
Elden YAU	Assistant General Manager (Marine) Falcon Insurance Co. Ltd.	

K.R. Fisher	CIP OPS Marine Hong Kong Police Force	
S. Hussain	General Manager/Local Vessels Safety	MD
K.P. KUI	Senior Marine Officer/Licensing and District Board (Acting)	MD
 <u>In Attendance</u>		
Deryck Ethelston	Babtie BMT Harris & Sutherland (Hong Kong) Ltd.	
Richard D. Colwill	Babtie BMT Harris & Sutherland (Hong Kong) Ltd.	
T.Y. LAU	Territory Development Department	
S.P. SIN	Management Services Agency	
Stella CHAN	Management Services Agency	
C.S. LAU	Senior Marine Officer/Development (1)	MD
K.M. NG	Senior Marine Officer/Vessel Traffic Centre (Administration)	MD
K.P. LEE	Senior Surveyor/Local Vessel Review	MD
J.S. Hayman	Marine Officer/Prosecution (2)	MD
F.L. CHEUK	Senior Marine Officer/Planning (1)	MD (Secretary)

Absent with Apologies

YANG Rixiang	Manager, Declaration Department Chu Kong Agency Co. Ltd.	
Jack Haworth	Manager Seaman's Training Centre	

INTRODUCTION

M229 The Chairman introduced himself and welcomed Mr. S.P. SIN and Ms. Stella CHAN who were attending the PLVAC meeting for the first time. He also welcomed Mr. Deryck Ethelston and Mr. Richard Colwill, who were attending the meeting for presentation of Committee Paper No. 4/98.

I. PRESENTATION

M230 (i) Committee Paper No. 4/98
Green Island Development Project

Mr. D. Ethelston gave a presentation on the assessment of marine traffic impact resulting from Green Island Development and briefed members of the findings and recommendations of the Marine Traffic Impact Assessment Study. In response to members queries, Mr. Ethelston advised that :-

- (i) the cargo working basin would not be a typhoon shelter;
- (ii) the effects on wave and current were insignificant; and
- (iii) the relocation of WQIA to Western Anchorage No. 1 was a temporary arrangement. A permanent WQIA would be provided after the construction of Lamma Breakwater.

A member commented that fishermen would suffer from this development. In this regard, Mr. K.M. NG advised that the reclaimed areas were located at main fairways where no fishing was allowed. Also, Mr. Ethelston advised that this concern would be addressed in the other part of this consultancy study, which had focused on ecological. Another member commented that ferry services to Islands would be affected and it's operating costs would be increased. Mr. Ethelston responded that by increase of steaming speed and re-arrangement of boarding time, normal ferry services would be maintained. Subject to reservations on the aspects of fishing and ferry services, members endorsed the findings and recommendations of the MTIA study.

II. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

M231 There was no request for amendment, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

III. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES OF MEETING

M232 (i) Extension of Compulsory Third Party Risks Insurance (M223)

Mr. C.S. LAU reported that the working group members had taken consideration of Consumer Price Indexes and Singapore practice, thus suggested to set the issued value to be \$8,000,000. However, as fishermen responded that it was more acceptable to set the issued value to be \$5,000,000, this issue would be further discussed in the coming working group meeting. In response to members' queries, the Chairman advised that the extension of compulsory third party insurance would be implemented in early 2000 since it would take about 20 months to enact a new legislation for local vessels. Besides, he agreed to explore whether the power to amend the issued values could be delegated to the Director of Marine so that it would take shorter time to amend the insured values when needed.

M233 (ii) Helping Business Study (M224)

The Chairman advised that the study on the management and tariff of PCWAs was completed, and the recommendations of the study would be implemented. In addition, a new helping business study on streamlining the process of surveys and licensing was started. Mr. K.P. KUI advised that the new study was conducted by Management Services Agency (MSA), and requested members to give their supports to MSA when contacted for collection of customers views. Mr. S.P. SIN supplemented that the new study would consider how to streamline the existing legislation. A member advised that he had experienced at licensing service counter that junior staff might not be aware of the changes of policy. The Chairman agreed to look for improvement of staff communication so as to ensure smooth implementation of the helping business recommendations.

M234 (iii) Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Bill (M226)

Mr. J.S. Hayman reported that the 8th draft of the MS(LV)B was sent to members for comments. Members had no comments on the draft Bill and supported those principles contained in the draft Bill.

IV. NEW ITEMS

M235 (i) Committee Paper No. 5/98
Installation of an Automatic Fog Horn
in the Vicinity of Kap Shui Mun Bridge

Mr. C.S. LAU presented the paper and advised that the automatic fog horn would be installed and operated by the Highway Department and Transport Department for protection of the Kap Shui Mun Bridge. Members had no comments on the proposal and supported the installation of the automatic fog horn.

M236 (ii) Committee Paper No. 6/98
Boom Length Restrictions for Use of Waterways
of the Height Restricted Area of Kap Shui Mun Bridge

Mr. C.S. LAU briefed members of the reasons for prohibiting vessels with boom length of 35 metres or more from using Kap Shui Mun Fairway, and the marking system for control purpose. Members had no comments on the paper and unanimously supported the proposal. He further advised that MD would inform the owners of those affected vessels to visit District Marine Offices for endorsement of the prohibition condition in the vessels licence books.

M237 (iii) Committee Paper No. 7/98
Re-visit of the Speed Limit Review

Mr. K.M. NG presented the paper and briefed members of the final proposal of Speed Limit Review. In response to members' queries, he clarified that the speed restrictions were set in relationship to a vessel's length overall. For a vessel with a genuine need to proceed at a higher speed, a speed restriction exemption might be granted after taking consideration of navigational safety, wave generation, effects to the community etc. A member commented that the final proposal was a bit conservative, particularly in the areas of Western Harbour where vessels could steam at a faster speed at present. Mr. K.M. NG responded that the final proposal was in fact a compromise proposal which had taken consideration of safe navigation, wave generation, port efficiency and etc.

M238 **V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

VI. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

M239 The Chairman thanked members for attending. They would be advised of the date of the next meeting in due course.

The meeting closed at 1552 hours.