

PROVISIONAL LOCAL VESSEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting of
the Committee held on 18 September 1998
at 10:00 a.m. in the District Board Committee Room
Room 1405 - 1406 at 14th Floor of Harbour Building**

Present

M.C. TSANG	Deputy Director of Marine	(Chairman)
CHOI Kim-lui	Executive Director New Moonraker Motorboat Co. Ltd	
CHAK Kowk-leung	for General Manager Hong Kong & Yaumati Ferry Co. Ltd	
HO Kwun-yin	Secretary Harbour Transportation Workers General Union	
HUNG Bing	Chairman Small Craft Workers Union	
KEUNG Yin-man	Chairman HK & Kowloon Floating Fishermen Welfare Promotion Association	
James SHUEN	Executive Director Floata Group of Companies	
Vitus K. SZETO	General Manager A. Fai Engineers & Shiprepairers Ltd.	
YANG Rixiang	Manager, Declaration Department Chu Kong Agency Co. Ltd.	
Jack Haworth	Manager Seaman's Training Centre	
R.W. Pickup	Senior Surveyor Lloyd's Register of Shipping	

K.R. Fisher	CIP OPS Marine Hong Kong Police Force	
K.K. NG	General Manager/Operations	MD
H.M. TUNG	General Manager/Local Vessels Safety	MD

In Attendance

LEUNG Wai-ying	Chairman Hong Kong Fishermen's Association	
WU Ka-shun	Port Affair Officer Hong Kong Shipping Staff Association	
F.L. CHEUK	Senior Marine Officer/Planning(1)	MD
C.S. LAU	Senior Marine Officer/Development(1)	MD
K.P. LEE	Senior Surveyor/Local Vessel Review	MD
J.S. Hayman	Marine Officer/Prosecution(2)	MD
S.W. MAK	Marine Officer/Licensing & DB Liaison	MD (Secretary)

Absent with Apologies

Peter J.S. CHENG	Managing Director Peter Cheng Naval Architect & Marine Consultant Ltd	
Elden YAU	Assistant General Manager (Marine) Falcon Insurance Co. Ltd	
Keith Choules	Executive Director HK Outward Bound School	

I. INTRODUCTION

M240 The Chairman introduced himself and welcomed Mr. R.W. Pickup and Mr. HO Kwun-yin who were recently appointed as members of PLVAC while Mr. WU Ka-shun would attend as an observer. The Chairman also introduced Mr. K.K. NG and Mr. H.M. TUNG as both attended the meeting for the first time. Mr. S.W. MAK would replace Mr. F.L. CHEUK as Secretary.

II. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

M241 Members raised the following amendments :

- (i) Mr. James SHUEN was absent with apologies in the last meeting;
- (ii) in lines 4 & 10 of M232, the word ;issured; should read ;insured; ;
- (iii) in line 2 of M235(i), the word ;Highway; should read ;Highways; .

Subject to the above amendments, the last minutes of meeting were confirmed.

III. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES OF MEETING

M242 (i) *Extension of Compulsory Third Party Risks Insurance (M232)*

Mr. C.S. LAU said that the minimum insured amounts for the Compulsory Third Party Risks Insurance (CTPRI) would be \$10 Million and \$5 Million for vessels carrying more than 12 passengers and vessels carrying not more than 12 passengers respectively. A member commented that the fisherman associations would require more time to consider the application of the CTPRI to fishing vessels. The Chairman responded that the extension would come into force in the year 2000. Further, promotion of the extension would continue to be carried out. Another member suggested that the size of fishing vessels should be considered when deciding the amounts of premium. Mr. C.S. LAU responded that the amounts of premium would be decided by underwriters. They would consider various factors to decide insurance policies with appropriate amounts of the premium. The optimum amounts would be reached after they had gained more experience on the CTPRI.

M243 (ii) Helping Business Study (M233)

Mr. K.K. NG advised that the consultancy study on streamlining the process of surveys and licensing was completed in August 1998. With effect from 31 August 1998, the Victoria Marine Office (VMO) and Port formalities and Dangerous Goods Office (PF&DG) were merged to form the Central Marine Office (CMO). The Chairman thanked members for giving their valuable opinions and supports to the consultants. A member enquired whether multiple clearance would be issued to sea-going vessels, Mr. K.K. Ng responded that this issue would be considered under the Phase II Helping Business Study. Mr. H.M. Tung advised that details of the recommendations of the Phase II Helping Business Study would be distributed to members when they were available. The Chairman supplemented that MD would consider local shipping industry's feedback before implementing the recommendations.

M244 (iii) Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Bill (M234)

Mr. K.P. Lee briefed members on Committee Paper No.8/98 - New Classification of Local Vessels that local vessels would be re-classified into four classes, i.e. Passenger Vessels, Cargo Vessels, Fishing Vessels and Pleasure Vessels. He also responded to the members inquiries on details of the new classes. The recommendation of the Committee Paper No.8/98 was endorsed by the members.

IV. NEW ITEMS

M245 (i) Committee Paper No. 9/98
Proposal on Construction of Peng Chau Typhoon
Shelter and Siu Lam Typhoon Shelter

Mr. C.S. Lau presented the paper and advised that the area of Peng Chau Typhoon Shelter (T/S) would be 51 ha instead of 40 ha. He also advised that the construction of Siu Lam T/S would have higher priority than the construction of Peng Chau T/S. Members commented that fishermen associations supported the construction of Peng Chau T/S and suggested Government should further discuss with District Board members though the Islands Provisional District Board had raised objection to the construction of Peng Chau T/S. The members also commented on the regulation of vessels within typhoon shelters and the sequence of constructing these typhoon shelters. Mr. C.S. Lau responded that MD would take consideration of the members comments for planning the construction of new typhoon shelters. In general, the members had no adverse comments on the proposal and supported the construction of Peng Chau and Siu Lam T/S.

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- M246 (i) A member raised the issue of loading/discharging of containers/cargo between river-trade vessels and sea-going vessels. The Chairman responded that prosecution actions would be taken should such illegal activities were discovered by MD patrol staff.
- M247 (ii) A member advised that agreement had been made between Vocational Training Council and Shipping Industries to provide training courses on safety of barge workers. In this connection, owners/operators were urged to arrange their employees to attend the courses. The Chairman responded that it was a good move and would enhance safety in cargo handling.

VI. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- M248 Members would be advised of the date of the next meeting in due course. The meeting closed at 1130 hours.