

# **PROVISIONAL LOCAL VESSEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## **Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Committee Meeting held on 17 December 1999 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1405-1406, 14/F., Harbour Building**

### **Present**

Chairman:	Mr. M.C. TSANG	Deputy Director of Marine
Member:	Dr. Peter CHENG Jui-shan	Representing Naval Architect
	Mr. CHOI Kim-lui	Representing Launch & Excursion Vessel Operators
	Mr. HE Wei-ping	Representing River Trade Cargo Operators
	Mr. HO Chi-shing	Representing Ferry Vessels Operators
	Mr. HUNG Bing	Representing Local Seafarers Operators
	Mr. KEUNG Yin-man	Representing Fishing Industry
	Dr. Alan LAU Kwok-lam	Pleasure Boating Operators
	Mr. SHUEN Wai	Representing HK Cargo Vessel Traders
	Mr. Elden YAU Choi-kee	Representing Marine Insurance Companies
	Mr. Tony YEUNG	Representing Seafarers' Training
	Mr. NG Kwing-kee	Representing Marine Department
	Mr. TUNG Hon-ming	Ditto
Secretary:	Mr. Michael YEUNG	Asst. Departmental Secretary/Marine Department

### **In Attendance**

Capt. WU Ka-shun	HK Shipping Staff Association
Mr. CHEUNG Yau-kwong	Marine Excursion Association
Ms. Sandy MAK	Ditto
Mr. LEUNG Wai-ying	HK Fishermen's Association
Mr. CHEUK Fun-lun	Marine Department
Mr. LEE Kwok-ping	Ditto
Mr. CHAN Yau-ning	Ditto

### **Presentation of Papers**

No. 15/99:	Mr. Edward WONG	Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department
	Mr. Alex KWOK	Ditto
	Mr. CHAN Kwong-chun	Marine Department
No. 16/99:	Mr. CHAN Ming-kwong	Ditto

### **Absent with Apologies**

Mr. HO Kwun-yin	Local Seafarers Operators
Mr. R. W. Pickup	Survey & Inspection Companies
Mr. SZETO Kin, Vitus	Ships Buildings & Ships Repairs
Mr. A.M. Steeple	Commissioner of Police

## I. INTRODUCTION

- M273 1. The Chairman welcomed all members.

## II. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- M274 2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed with one amendment:  
Para. 15, line 6 to replace “exclusion” with “excursion”.

## III. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

### *Paper No. 15/99 “Establishment of Marine Parks, Marine Reserves and Artificial Reefs”*

- M275 3. Mr. K. C. CHAN informed members that four additional Marine Parks (MP) and five Marine Special Areas (MSA) would be set up in accordance with the recommendations of the Marine Parks and Reserves Working Group and the Artificial Reef Deployment Study respectively. Mr. Edward WONG added that the Ping Chau Marine Park was still in the preliminary stage pending public consultation.
4. Dr. Alan LAU was concerned that water recreation and boating activities at Outer Port Shelter Island would be adversely affected by the proposed MSA. Mr. SHUEN Wai pointed out that a lot of OGVs would be anchoring at south Lamma and south-west Lantau to wait for pilots, moreover, the high speed ferries and mid-stream operation would also be affected. Messrs. KEUNG Yin-man and LEUNG Wai-ying suggested that the development of the MSAs should be carried out by phases, the plan could then be fine tuned to minimize adverse effect caused to the fishing industry.
5. Mr. Edward WONG noted the concerns, he undertook to further consult relevant industries on the size and suitability of the MSAs before implementation.

### *Paper No. 16/99 “Establishment of Prohibited Anchorage Area (PAA) in Water south of Disney Park”*

- M276 6. Mr. M. K. CHAN explained to members that the establishment of the PAA was to ensure safety and for effective control of marine traffic during the nightly fireworks display in the Hong Kong Disney. The Chairman added that traffic control would be stepped up in the beginning stage, he envisaged that local people would soon lose interest with the nightly fireworks display.
7. Members expressed their grave concern that the Western Anchorage no.1 (WA 1) would be affected if the Phase 2 development was to go ahead after 2005. They strongly supported the construction of the west Lamma breakwater and reprovision of the WA 1. Another concern was about the adverse effect caused to the high speed ferry routes to Discovery Bay and Peng Chau. The Chairman assured members that the traffic condition would be closely monitored and stringently controlled. The paper was finally endorsed subject to the reprovision of affected anchorage and the reconsideration of the construction of the west Lamma breakwater.

## IV. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

### *(i) Helping Business Study (M268)*

- M277 8. Mr. H.M. TUNG informed members that half of the recommendations of the Helping Business Study were implemented. The remaining recommendations would be implemented after the Ordinance been finalized.

(ii) Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Bill (M269)

- M278 9. Mr. F.L. CHEUK informed members that two subsidiary legislation would be finalized shortly. The final drafts would be circulated to members for comments when available.

(iii) Code of Practices for Pleasure Vessels (M267)

- M279 10. Mr. K. K. NG informed members that the first working group meeting was held on 15 September 1999 and a site visit was arranged on 25 October 1999 for the Class Societies to visit the excursion vessels and discuss with the operators on the standards to follow. Mr. H. M. TUNG added that the Class Societies were still considering the appropriate Code of Practices.

(iv) Fishing Vessels Matters (M270)

- M280 11. Mr. H. M. TUNG reported that the first working group meeting on fishing vessels matters was held on 28 October 1999 and issues on policy and operational matters were widely discussed.

**V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Confirmation of Papers that were circulated to members earlier:

- M281 12. The three following papers were circulated to members for comments and the comments received were summarised at Appendix 1 for members' reference.
- (1) PLVAC Paper No. 12/99 "The New North East Lantau Outline Zoning Plan";
  - (2) PLVAC Paper No. 13/99 "Consultation Document on the Artificial Reef Deployment Study"; and
  - (3) PLVAC Paper No. 14/99 "Vessels Lie Alongside a Ship"
13. Members endorsed all the three papers.

**VII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- M282 14. Members would be informed of the date of next meeting in due course.

Appendix I

**Summary of Comments Received**

- (i) **PLVAC Paper No. 12/99 “The New North East Lantau Outline Zoning Plan”**  
No comment received.
- (ii) **PLVAC Paper No. 13/99 “Consultation Document on the Artificial Reef Deployment Study”**

Mr. HO Chi-shing HK & Yamatei Ferry	He reminded that the proposed MSA1 may pose a threat to the existing TSS for the DSC plying between Hong Kong & Macau.
Mr. WU Ka-shun South China Towing	He suggested that AFD should establish community-based management advisory group with fisherman representative to enhance local involvement in AR deployment and management. The use of fishing line should be allowed in the LAZs and fishable reefs.
Mr. A.M. Steeple Marine Police	He supported the AR concept and raised the following comments :- (a) Each of the five proposed areas must have a dedicated AFD team, as police resources cannot be provided; (b) Each site should be adequately marked; (c) AFD must have appropriate vessels for sites on the east side of the S.A.R. as sea conditions are frequently poor; (d) Adequate consultation must take place with the fishing community to minimize disputes that may arise; (e) Appropriate cross-boundary liaison be conducted in order to educate Mainland fishermen on these areas; and (f) Enriched fish stocks could attract the attention of Mainland fishermen on P4 sampans based at Gui Shan & Nan’ Ao, which could create difficulties for AFD and require HKPF intervention.

**PLVAC Paper No. 14/99 “Vessels Lie Alongside a Ship”**

<p>Dr. Peter CHENG Naval Architect</p>	<p>He endorsed the recommendation but reminded that the size of the ship should also be considered when compared with the barges alongside. The tier should be reduced if the barges alongside is larger than the ship itself.</p>
<p>Mr. CHOI Kim-lui Representing launch and excursion vessel operators</p>	<p>He supported the proposal and suggested to allow in certain terminals/PCWAs some flexibility for additional tiers should the adjacent navigable waters being sufficient.</p>
<p>Mr. A.M. Steeple Marine Police</p>	<p>He supported the proposal because it would make it easier for casualty evacuation and the congested situation should be alleviated.</p>
<p>Mr. James SHUEN Representing HK Cargo Vessel Traders</p>	<p>No objection to the proposal provided reasonable balance between working efficiency and safety is reached, he raised the following comments :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) He requested that the definition of “local vessels” should be carefully specified. He suggested that the application of the regulation should not be extended to cover mid-stream operations;</li><li>(b) He reminded that the small (under 50 TEUs) Mainland coastal &amp; river trade vessels are not suitable for mid-stream operations in HK. He therefore recommended applying more stringent conditions to those Mainland coastal and river trade vessels. Suggestions such as vessel size and propose-built structure, qualified masters/crews who are familiar with marine &amp; industry safety regulations in HK</li></ul>