

OPENING REMARKS

The Secretary welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the following Members –

- (a) Mr Gilbert FENG, Assistant Director of the Hong Kong Shipowners Association who had replaced Mr Timothy Scott HUXLEY;
- (b) Mr Fared Ahamad KHAN as representative of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce;
- (c) Mr Michael MARQUES as representative of the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild - Hong Kong;
- (d) Ms Emma CHIU, Secretary of the Hong Kong Seamen's Union;
- (e) Dr LAU Ming-ho of the Department of Health who attended the meeting on behalf of Dr HO Lei-ming, Raymond as ex-officio Member;
- (f) Ms Grace CHAN of the Labour Department as ex-officio Member;
- (g) Mr CHOI Chi-chuen of the Marine Department as ex-officio Member; and
- (h) Ms Shirley CHOW of the Marine Department who was in attendance at the meeting.

2. The Secretary introduced the Membership of 2017-2020 term of the Port Welfare Committee (the Committee) and invited Members to note the Terms of Reference of the Committee as follows –

- (a) To co-ordinate on behalf of Government arrangements in Hong Kong for social and recreational welfare of all serving seamen, with the exception of those who are residing in Hong Kong. The term "serving seamen" shall be construed to mean "those seamen visiting the port and those temporarily residing here, consequent

upon discharge for health or other reasons, awaiting re-engagement or repatriation”.

- (b) To allocate any grants of monies which the Committee may receive from all sources for the social and recreational welfare of seamen.
 - (c) To obtain information on developments and facilities in connection with seamen’s welfare in other ports, and to take appropriate action in the light of this information.
 - (d) To take such other action as it may see fit to promote the welfare of seamen, including action in conjunction with other social and recreational bodies.
 - (e) To publish an annual report and audited accounts.
3. The Secretary informed Members that the minutes of the last meeting were circulated to Members in April 2017 and no amendment was received. The minutes were confirmed and signed by the then Chairman.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Declaration of Interests (Appendix A)

4. The Secretary referred Members to the extract of the notes of the Committee meeting held on 13 September 2002 and PWC Paper No. 1/2002 “Declaration of Interests by Members of the PWC” at Appendix A. She briefed Members that since 2002, the Committee had adopted a one-tier system for declaration of interests whereby the Chairman/a Member was required to disclose his/her interest at the meeting when he/she considered that there was a potential conflict of interest in a matter placed before the Committee. All cases of declaration of interests should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The meeting noted the one-tier declaration of interests system.

II. Election of Committee Chairman

5. The Secretary informed the meeting that the Chairmanship of Mr Timothy Scott HUXLEY had ended on 30 June 2017. She invited Members to nominate and elect among themselves the new Chairman of the Committee before the meeting proceeded further. Mr CHOI nominated Mr FENG to be the new Chairman and Ms CHIU seconded the proposal. With the unanimous consent of Members, Mr FENG was elected Chairman of the Committee for the term 2017-2020.

6. Mr FENG thanked Members for their support and was very glad that he could follow the footsteps of Mr HUXLEY to be the Chairman of the Committee. He expressed his commitment to the work of the Committee to cater for the social and recreational welfare of seafarers visiting Hong Kong and those temporarily residing here.

III. Discussion Items

(a) Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2017 (Appendix B)

7. The meeting noted the following financial position of the Committee for the year ended 31 March 2017 as set out on page 2 of the financial statement which had been circulated to Members before the meeting –

	\$
Income	163,301
Expenditure	154,950
Surplus	8,351
Surplus at the beginning of the year (i.e. 1 April 2016)	29,033
Surplus at the end of the year (i.e. 31 March 2017)	37,384

8. The meeting noted that the Marine Department's Internal Auditor had served as the Honorary Auditor for the Committee. Members endorsed the Committee's account unanimously.

(b) Potential Donors for 2017-2018 (Appendices C & D)

9. The Secretary said that a list of recommended donors (donors who had made donations to the Committee in 2016-2017) and a list of potential

donors for 2017-2018 had been circulated to Members together with the agenda of the meeting. She elaborated that the recommended donor list at Appendix C had included individuals and companies which had made donations to the Committee in 2016-2017 and recommended that the Committee would continue to appeal to them for donations in 2017-2018. The list at Appendix D included other potential donors to whom the Committee could appeal for support this year.

10. The Chairman considered that the lists should be updated to include new shipping companies and remove the obsolete ones. As the donor list was the primary source where donations came from, the Secretary invited Members' assistance to review the lists of recommended and potential donors with a view to including additional entries and maintaining the lists up-to-date as far as practicable. Members were requested to let the Secretary have the proposed additions and/or deletions to the lists by 3 October 2017.

(c) **Draft Annual Report for 2016-2017 (Appendix E)**

11. The Secretary reported that a copy of the draft Annual Report for 2016-2017 had been sent to Members before the meeting. The Annual Report would be sent to the potential donors to appeal for their donations which would mainly be used for supporting the two voluntary agencies, namely the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen and the Danish Seamen's Church, Hong Kong. The Report gave a detailed account of the two voluntary agencies' work and achievements with a view to impressing upon the potential donors on the need to support this very worthy cause in providing social and recreational welfare for seafarers visiting Hong Kong and those temporarily residing in Hong Kong. The appeal letters would be issued in the name of the Chairman on behalf of the Committee to the potential donors in November/December 2017.

12. The Chairman invited Members' comments on the draft Annual Report and let the Secretary to have their inputs/comments by 3 October 2017.

IV. Any Other Business

13. Members had no other issues to raise at the meeting.

V. **Date of Next Meeting**

14. The Secretary said that the next meeting would be held in six months' time, i.e. around March 2018. Members would be informed of the details in due course.

15. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:25 p.m.

No signature on website copy

(Mr Gilbert FENG)

Chairman

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(Ms Fausta NG)

Secretary

Port Welfare Committee

December 2017