# PORT WELFARE COMMITTEE

Notes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting held on 15 April 2004 at 2:30p.m. in Conference Room A, Marine Department Headquarters, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

# **Present**

Mr. Andrew CHEN Yee

Chairman

Hong Kong Shipowners' Association

Captain HO Kai-hung

Member

Merchant Navy Officers' Guild-Hong Kong

Mr. POON Chi-kwok

Member

Hong Kong Seamen's Union

Captain Sanjiv Sethi

Member

Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

(on behalf of

Captain C.A.J. Vanderperre)

Mr. CHAN Ming-yau

Member

Marine Department (ex-officio)

(on behalf of Mr. SO Ping-chi)

Mrs. Patricia LUK

Secretary

Marine Department (ex-officio)

#### In attendance

Mr. Patrick CHUNG

Marine Department

### Absent with apologies

Mr. Rajaish Bajpaee

Member

Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

Dr. P.L. MA

Member

Department of Health (ex-officio)

Mrs. SIU HO Kar-yuk, Clare

Member

Labour Department (ex-officio)

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The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the following persons –

- > Capt. Sanjiv Sethi, who represented Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce on behalf of Capt. C.A.J. Vanderperre;
- Mr. M.Y. CHAN, who represented Marine Department on behalf of Mr. SO Ping-chi; and
- Mrs. Patricia LUK, the new Secretary of Port Welfare Committee (PWC) who replaced Miss CHOW Yan-yan with effect from 31 December 2003.

#### **AGENDA ITEMS**

# I. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 3 September 2003

2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

#### II. Matters arising from Minutes of the Last Meeting

#### Redevelopment of the Mariner's Club

- 3. The Chairman said that he had written to the Chairman of the Committee of the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen (SHMS) in January 2004, expressing the views of the PWC on the proposed redevelopment project. A copy of the letter was tabled at the meeting. He then invited Mr. M.Y. CHAN to brief Members of the latest development.
- 4. Mr. M.Y. CHAN said that the contractor of the redevelopment project had proposed to suspend the consultation with the seafarer's groups in October 2003 on the ground that no new points were raised during the previous consultations. Nevertheless, he understood that the door for consultation had not been closed. There was not yet a decision on whether the redevelopment project would proceed or not. The SHMS had recently considered renovating some of the existing facilities of the Mariners' Club to comply with the fire regulations.
- 5. The Chairman asked about the renovation cost involved and the source of its funding. Mr. M.Y. CHAN advised that Marine Department had not been informed of the details. At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Chan undertook to find out more details about the renovation and to request SHMS to provide a reply on the redevelopment project.
- 6. Mr. POON Chi-kwok supplemented that the Lands Department had

informed him in February 2004 that since SHMS failed to give further response about the arrangement for further consultation with the seafarer's groups regarding the application for redevelopment of the Mariners' Club, it had suspended processing of the application and asked SHMS to contact the Hong Kong Seamen's Union first. The Chairman requested Mr. Poon to keep members, in particular Mr. M.Y. CHAN, informed of the up-to-date situation.

# III. Financial position of the Committee as at 31 March 2004

7. The Chairman advised that the balance as at 31 March 2004 was \$328,970.37.

## IV. Donations received by the Committee in 2003/2004

8. The Chairman noted that the donations received in 2003/04 were \$20,000 less than those in 2002/03. He suggested that a target for donations should be set and undertook to persuade the potential donors/donors to increase their donations in 2004/05 to the level similar to that in 2002/03.

## V. Allocation of grants to agencies

9. The Chairman proposed and Members agreed that the same amount of subsidies as last year's should be granted to the following two organisations, detailed as follows –

The Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen \$100,000
The Danish Seamen's Church \$10,000

#### VI. Date of next meeting

10. The Chairman advised that the next regular meeting would be held in September 2004. The Secretary would inform Members of the details in due course.

(Mr. Andrew CHEN Yee)

Chairman

(Mrs. Patricia LUK) Secretary

22 September 2004