

## **Shipping Consultative Committee**

### **Proposed Amendments to Merchant Shipping Regulations**

#### **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek members' views on the proposed amendments to the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (BCH Code) Regulations (Cap. 413D) to implement the amendments to the Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (BCH Code), which will enter into force internationally on 1 August 2007.

#### **Backgrounds**

2. The Hong Kong Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 38/2006 dated 11 July 2006 provided the information on the amendments to the BCH Code. The MSIN and the relevant IMO documents could be download from the Marine Department website (<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html>).

#### **The Amendments to BCH Code**

3. As a consequence to a comprehensive revision, the revised MARPOL Annex II will enter into force on 1 January 2007, the Preamble, Chapters I, II, III, IV, V, VA, VI, VIII and the Appendix - "Model form of certificate of fitness for the carriage of dangerous chemicals in bulk" of the BCH Code have been amended.

#### **Implementation of International Requirements**

4. Since the amendments mentioned in paragraph 3 above will enter into force internationally on 1 August 2007, HKSAR should keep in line with the international standards and implement the amended provisions. The implementation of these provisions will be done by amending the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (BCH Code) Regulations (Cap. 413D).

#### **Consultation**

5. Members' comments are invited on the above proposal to implement the international requirements for Hong Kong registered ships.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division  
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