

## **Shipping Consultative Committee**

### **Proposed amendments to Merchant Shipping Regulations**

#### **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek members' views on the amendments to Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A) to give effect to the latest amendments to MARPOL Annex I.

#### **Backgrounds**

2. On 17 July 2009 International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted, by resolutions MEPC. 186(59) and MEPC. 187(59), the amendments to the MARPOL Annex I. The amendment will enter into force internationally on 1 January 2011.

#### **Summary of Amendments**

3. The main changes are:

- .1 Addition of a new chapter 8 for prevention of pollution in the transfer of oil cargo between oil tankers at sea (STS operations). The regulations contained in this chapter shall not apply to bunkering operations and oil transfer operations associated with the offshore production and storage units.
- .2 Amendments to regulations 1, 12, 13, 17 and 38 of MARPOL Annex I, Supplement to the IOPP Certificate and Oil Record Book Parts I and II relating to new definitions, new requirements (tanks for oil residues (sludge)) and editorial changes.

4. The revised text of MARPOL Annex I is enclosed for members' reference.

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

5. HKSAR should keep in line with the international standards and implement the new requirements mentioned in the above paragraph 3 of this paper, by amending the Hong Kong Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulations (Cap. 413A).

### **Consultation**

6. Members are invited to comment on the above proposal to implement the requirements for Hong Kong registered ships.

Marine Department  
Multi-lateral Policy Division

13 November 2009

**Encl.** (i) Resolution MEPC. 186(59)  
(ii) Resolution MEPC. 187(59)