

Collision between a mainland cargo vessel “中食238” and a local motor launch “M73339Y” with one fatality

1. The Incident

- 1.1 At about 1306 on 21 December 2005, in good visibility and weather, a mainland cargo vessel “中食238” collided with a local motor launch “M73339Y” in Yau Ma Tei Fairway at approximately 200 metres west of the northern entrance to Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter. “中食238” had suffered no apparent damage while the local motor launch capsized and sank immediately after the collision. Two persons on board the motor launch were fallen into the water. The Coxswain was drowned in the incident whilst the other person was rescued without injury by a passing vessel. There was no injury to the crew on board “中食238” .

2. Lessons

- 2.1 Master of vessel should make arrangement to maintain a proper lookout at all times. A single person should not be engaged in steering the vessel and keeping a lookout at the same time, as he would not be able to obtain an unobstructed view of the surrounding vessels.