

Collision between the Hong Kong registered container ship *CSCL HAMBURG* and the Chinese registered bulk carrier *LIAN HUA FENG* on 5 March 2008

1. The Incident

1.1 At about 2101 on 5 March 2008, a Hong Kong registered container ship *CSCL HAMBURG* collided with a Chinese registered bulk carrier *LIAN HUA FENG* in the approximate position 30° 36.2'N 123° 10.5'E, near Zhoushan Islands in the East China Sea.

1.2 After the collision, *CSCL HAMBURG* sustained serious hull damage in way of the port side abaft midships and port quarter. Four containers also fell onto the forecastle deck of *LIAN HUA FENG*. *LIAN HUA FENG* lost her starboard anchor and sustained damage on the bow and starboard side between No.2 and No.3 cargo holds.

1.3 There was no injury and oil pollution due to the ships collision accident.

2. Lessons

2.1 Officers in charge of the navigational watch shall not rely on using VHF radio communication to establish an unreliable agreement of the intention of the other vessel in order to avoid collision. They should follow the requirements of COLREGS and take positive and early action to avoid collision. The Master should also be informed earlier if necessary.