Implementation of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001 to Hong Kong

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Classification Societies and Shipbuilders

**Summary**

This information note draws the attention of the parties concerned on the commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships) Regulation (Cap. 413N) on 1 January 2017.

1. In accordance with section 1 of the Merchant Shipping (Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships) Regulation (Cap. 413N) (herein after referred to as the Regulation), the Secretary for Transport and Housing has appointed 1 January 2017 as the commencement day for the Regulation to come into operation.

2. The Regulation implements the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships (AFS Convention) and prohibits the use of organotin compounds in anti-fouling systems of ships for the protection of marine environment. The Regulation applies to Hong Kong registered ships wherever they are and ships within the Hong Kong waters.

3. For enquiries, please contact the Senior Surveyor of Ships / Maritime Policy at tel. no. 2852 4395 or by e-mail to hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk.