Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978 and the STCW Code

To: Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Officers and Crew

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to promulgate IMO resolutions MSC.416(97) and MSC.417(97) to advise parties concerned of the amendments to the STCW Convention and the STCW Code which will enter into force on 1 July 2018.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at its 97th session adopted resolutions MSC.416(97) and MSC.417(97) on 25 November 2016 to amend the STCW Convention and the STCW Code. The respective amendments stipulate mandatory minimum requirements on training and qualifications of (i) masters, officers, ratings and other personnel on passenger ships and (ii) masters and deck officers on ships operating in polar waters.

2. These amendments will enter into force on 1 July 2018.

3. The details of these amendments as annexed to IMO resolutions MSC.416(97) and MSC.417(97) can be found on the website of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as attachments to this Note.

4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, officers and crew of Hong Kong registered ships are required to take note of these amendments and act accordingly.

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