The collision between Hong Kong registered passenger high-speed craft *Lilau* and mainland non-registered fishing boat *Yue Zhu Hai Yun 1318* in position 22°11.747’N 113°49.175’E in the Lantau Channel on 8 May 2012

1. The Incident

1.1 At 1250 hrs on 8 May 2012, the Hong Kong registered passenger high-speed craft *Lilau*, with a total of 142 passengers and 9 crew members on board, departed from the HK-Macau Ferry Terminal to Macau.

1.2 At 132306 hrs, *Lilau* passed the Fan Lau buoy. At 132409 hrs, *Lilau* entered in the anti-clockwise traffic roundabout. At the latter time, a mainland non-registered fishing boat *Yue Zhu Hai Yun 1318* was returning to Zhuhai, China. The fishing boat was at a position ahead of *Lilau* moving in a northwesterly direction. However, the crews of *Lilau* neither noticed it by radar nor by sight. At about 132552 hrs, *Lilau* collided with the fishing boat.

1.3 At the time of the accident, the fishing boat and *Lilau* were approximately moving at a speed of 22 knots and 41 knots respectively. The fishing boat was hit by a strut of *Lilau*. It was cut into two and sank. The coxswain of the fishing boat fell into the water and missing. There was no injury to the passenger and crew of *Lilau*. There was no oil spilled into the sea in the accident.

1.4 The investigation revealed the following contributing factors to the accident:-

   a) The Master of *Lilau* did not maintain a proper lookout at all time when navigating the vessel into the high traffic density roundabout;

   b) The Master of *Lilau* did not take timely action to avoid collision when it became apparent that the fishing boat, the give-way vessel, did not take any action to keep out of the way; and

   c) The Coxswain of the fishing boat was not qualified to operate a vessel, and did not take action to avoid collision.

2. Lessons learnt

2.1 The crews should maintain a proper look-out at all times and take appropriate collision avoidance action in compliance with the rules of COLREGS.

2.2 All vessels should be navigated by or under supervision of qualified master and crew members.