

## **Grounding of the open cruiser NAA-3797, at Cham Tau Chau, Hong Kong on 26 April 2015**

### **1. The incident**

1.1 At about 0200 on 26 April 2015, a locally licensed open cruiser NAA-3797 (the cruiser) with a total of four persons on board including the coxswain departed from the Sai Kung (西貢) public pier for Tsam Chuk Wan (斬竹灣). After passing the water in between Yeung Chau (羊洲) and Cham Tau Chau (枕頭洲), the cruiser hit a mooring buoy.

1.2 The coxswain and the crew of the cruiser were injured and became unconscious. The cruiser lost control and veered towards the north of Cham Tau Chau. Finally the cruiser went up and stranded on the beach at the northern part of the island in the approximately position of 22° 22.81'N, 114° 17.32'E at about 0210.

1.3 All the four injured persons were taken to the hospital for medical treatment by the Marine Police. The bow and the port outboard engine of the cruiser were damaged.

1.4 The investigation into the accident revealed that the main contributing factors are as follows:

- (a) the coxswain of the cruiser did not proceed at a safe speed (Rule 6 of COLREG 1972) which caused the coxswain could not take proper and effective action to avoid the accident ;
- (b) the coxswain also did not maintain a proper look-out (Rule 5 of COLREG 1972) by all available means, such as radar, to detect and keep well clear of any obstruction at sea during navigation; and
- (c) the coxswain did not follow the “Important Safety Instruction” of operation manual to wear the safety lanyard (the kill cord) while under way.

### **2. Lessons Learnt**

2.1 During sailing, the coxswains of the cruiser should:

- maintain a proper lookout by all available means;
- proceed at a safe speed; and
- follow strictly the “Important Safety Instruction” of operation manual to wear the safety lanyard (the kill cord).