Information Paper **LVAC Paper No. 1/2026**

LOCAL VESSELS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Additional Requirements for Reporting the Loss of Freight Containers Containing Marine Pollutants in Packaged Form

Purpose

Members are invited to note the additional requirements applicable to local vessel for reporting the loss of freight containers containing marine pollutants in packaged form, both in Hong Kong waters and outside of Hong Kong waters.

Background

2. In accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Cap. 548), where a freight container or other cargo is lost overboard from a local vessel, the owner, his agent or the coxswain of the local vessel must furnish to the Hong Kong Marine Department (MD) in writing full particulars of the incident within 24 hours after the occurrence. This requirement can be fulfilled by submitting a completed "Report of Marine Incident" (form M.O. 822).

Additional requirements of reporting

3. From 1 January 2026, the Merchant Shipping (Reporting of Pollution Incidents) Regulation (Cap. 413C) requires that, if a freight container lost overboard from a local vessel contains any marine pollutant in packaged form, the owner or the coxswain of the local vessel involved must report the incident with details to MD and, if occurred outside Hong Kong waters, also report to the nearest authority (see Marine Department Notice No. 263/2025). The details of the incident required in the report include the type, estimated position and number of the lost freight container, as well as the UN number of the marine pollutant in the lost freight container, etc..

4. To facilitate and streamline the reporting of freight container overboard incident, the form of "Report of Marine Incident" was slightly revised. The revised form can be used for reporting freight container overboard incident under Cap. 548. In addition, if any lost freight container in the same incident contains marine pollutants in packaged form, the corresponding details required in the Annex 3 of the revised form shall be provided in the submission.

5. The revised form M.O. 822 is attached as **Annex** to this Information Paper. It is also available at below link:

https://www.mardep.gov.hk/filemanager/en/share/forms/pdf/mo822nf.pdf

Multi-lateral Policy Division
Marine Department
January 2026

Annex – revised form M.O. 822