PILOTAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Notes of Working Group Meeting

Date： **9 September 2025 (Tuesday)**
Time： **9:30 a.m.**
Venue: **Conference Room A, 21/F Harbour Building**

Present

Chairman:	WU Kou-qing	General Manager / Vessel Traffic Services,
Members:	CHAN Hung-tai	Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association
	WONG Yuk-tong	Shipping Agencies
	LAM Wing-chiu	Container Terminal Operators
	LAU Yiu-ming	Oil terminal operators
	Ms LEI Ho-yan, Angelina	Tug operators
	Capt LEE Koon-wah	Licensed Pilot
	NI Yong	Dockyard Industry
	GUI Dong	Break Bulk Cargo Operators
Secretary:	Ms Athena LIU	Executive Officer (General & Committee)

In attendance

Capt CHUN Wah-tak, Bruce	Licensed Pilot, Hong Kong Pilots Association
LAU Wai-cheong, Jackson	General Manager, Hong Kong Pilots Association
LAM Tsun-him	Assistant General Manager, Hong Kong Pilots Association
Domines CHAN	Senior Marine Officer / Vessel Traffic Centre
CHOW Tung-wing	Marine Officer / Vessel Traffic Centre (3)
TANG Ying-kit, George	Marine Manager / Pilotage

Absent with apology

ZHANG Hongwen	Hong Kong Shipowners Association
PI Xiaozhong	Surveyor of Ships (Nautical) / Seafarers and Examination (2)
CHANG Chi-wai, Robson	Dry Bulk Cargo Operators
Capt ZHOU Jianfeng	Master Mariner
Capt JIAO Jie	Master Mariner
Capt LI Yongzheng	Master Mariner
Capt TAO Ming, Rockman	Licensed Pilot

Opening Remarks

The Chairman extended his welcome to all members and introduced representatives of the MD and HKPA.

I. Confirmation of notes of the last meeting

2. The notes of the last meeting held on 29 July 2024 were confirmed without amendment.

*[**Post-meeting note:** The meeting notes were uploaded to the website of Marine Department on xx October 2025.]*

II. Discussion item

(a) ***PACWG Paper No. 3/2025 - Proposed Amendment to the Pilotage Order, Cap. 84C (Schedule 1 – Appropriate Experience of Applicant)***

3. Mr LAM Tsun-him (Assistant General Manager, Hong Kong Pilots Association) presented the paper.

4. The Chairman and SMO/VTC enquired about the decrease of frequency in accompanying by a licenced pilot for berthing/unberthing and mooring from existing 341 to proposed 339 and also for being an observer from existing 75 to proposed 71. HKPA was asked to review if more new places could be added to maintain the frequency of experienced required.

5. Capt CHUN Wah-tak, Bruce (Licenced Pilot, Hong Kong Pilots Association) explained that the decrease was due to the ceased operation in H.K. United Dockyards Seawalls Wharf and the Floating Dock (United), Yiu Lian No.1. Given the shared similarity in manoeuvring and controls, it was proposed to remain the same.

6. After deliberation, the Working Group agreed with the paper.

(b) ***PACWG Paper No. 4/2025 - Proposed Amendment to the Pilotage Order, Cap. 84C (Schedule 3 – Experience Required for Amendment of Licence to Higher Class of Pilotage)***

7. Mr LAM Tsun-him (Assistant General Manager, Hong Kong Pilots Association) presented the paper.

8. The Chairman asked the reason for the no amendment from Class IIF to Class IIB. Mr LAM explained that the proposal was based on the projection that there should be enough suitable orders available till year 2035.

9. After deliberation, the Working Group agreed with the paper.

(c) ***PACWG Paper No. 5/2025 - Review on Training, Assessment and Examination Arrangements for Pilots***

10. MM/Pilotage presented the paper.

11. In response to Mr LAM Wing-chiu (Container Terminal Operators)'s question on oral examination of PAC at Annex IX, MM/Pilotage advised that the current composition of PAC members (i.e. one licenced pilot, one master mariner, one examiner at SoS Grade with DD(1) as the Chairman) is considered valid and appropriate and so no amendment is proposed.

12. In response to Mr Gui Dong (Break Bulk Cargo Operators)'s question on the requirement of 10 months in Class IIA and 10.5 months in Class IID, Mr LAM Tsun-him (Assistant General Manager, Hong Kong Pilots Association) counter-proposed of 9 months for amendment from Class IIA to Class I given the lack of sufficient dry cargo/bulker over the past years. Capt LEE Koon-wah also reiterated the drop of availability of the relevant vessel for the practical examination. Mr NI Yong (Dockyard Industry) showed his support for 9 months given the existing statistical support. Ms LEI Ho-yan, Angelina (Tug Operators) expressed her idea that acquiring relevant expertise is more important than the number of months.

13. The Chairman responded that the Pilotage Authority is responsible for safeguarding navigational safety and hence the

quality of the pilots should be maintained. Since the availability of the relevant vessels was a projection only, 10 months was recommended for members' consideration.

14. After deliberation, the Working Group agreed to revise from 10.5 months to 10 months for amendment from Class IID to Class IIC pilot.

(d) ***PACWG Paper No. 6/2025 - Proposed Amendment to Pilotage (Dues) Order, Cap. 84D (Proposed Additional Dues for Pilotage Services Performed Beyond Pilot Boarding Station)***

15. MM/Pilotage presented the paper.

16. Capt LEE Koon-wah (Licenced Pilot) raised that the time spent on conveying a pilot beyond PBS for boarding or disembarkation should also be remunerated.

17. After deliberation, the Working Group agreed with the paper, but disagreed the remuneration suggested at para. 16 above as it was considered inappropriate to levy additional dues on transportation where no pilotage service was performed.

(e) ***PACWG Paper No. 7/2025 - Proposed Amendment to the Pilotage (Dues) Order, Cap. 84D (Proposed Additional Pilotage Dues for Boarding at South Cheung Chau Pilot Boarding Station)***

18. MM/Pilotage presented the paper.

19. In response to Capt LEE Koon-wah's clarification that HKPA did in 2023 submitted to PAC a paper on proposing to add additional pilotage dues for boarding at South Cheung Chau Pilot Boarding Station, MM/Pilotage advised that the HKPA has been reminded several times during that period but no feedback received before the legislative procedures commenced. Moreover, he pointed out that the authority to setting up dues for boarding station rests in the Pilotage Authority. Capt LEE Koon-wah (Licenced Pilot) proposed to set the dues at $4,500 making reference to the conveyor boat at $4,700 to South Lamma Island.

20. On this, the Chairman reminded the meeting that Cap. 84D Pilotage (Dues) Order stipulates that the pilotage dues specified include all costs incurred by a pilot in travelling to and from a ship. Transportation fee should not be separately incurred.

21. LAU Yiu-ming (Oil terminal operators) considered that given an additional pilotage due of $2,191 shall be payable for any pilotage service performed, where a pilot is required to board a ship or disembark from a ship off Ngan Chau or at the west of Lamma Island, he supported that the dues above $2,191 is considered reasonable.

22. CHAN Hung-tai (Hong Kong Liner Shipping Association) advised the meeting that its members have no adverse comment on setting up the relevant dues given its geographical consideration.

23. WONG Yuk-tong (Shipping Agencies) considered that given the difficulty in pilotage and the distance, he agreed to the proposed fee from the HKPA. The Chairman reminded the meeting an additional pilotage due of $4,605 is payable for any pilotage service performed if a pilot is required to board, or disembark from, a ship in Tolo Harbour; and an additional pilotage due of $4,230 is payable for any pilotage service performed if a pilot is required to board, or disembark from, a ship at the pilot boarding station described in item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Ordinance (area off Ping Chau in Mirs Bay) which are farer in distances.

24. Considering the tug surcharge for outside harbour is set at 25%, after deliberation, the meeting endorsed to levy an additional pilotage dues at $4,200[1].

III. Any Other Business & Adjournment of meeting

25. There was no other business. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

IV. Date of next meeting

[1] Pro-rata on the additional pilotage dues provided under para.5 with an additional 20% and rounding down to tenths ($2,191 /5 x8 x1.2).

26. The date of next meeting would be announced in due course.

Distribution list

Chairman, PAC Working Group
Members, PAC Working Group
HKPA
Senior Marine Officer/Vessel Traffic Centre, MD
MM/Pilotage, MD

Committee Unit
Marine Department
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