

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB049

(Question Serial No. 2239)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Port Services
(4) Services to Ships
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Mr S.F. WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

Regarding the various measures of the Government to promote green shipping, including the three-year Green Vessels Registration Incentive Scheme which will be launched in 2026, the three-year Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels, and the ongoing Carbon Intensity Indicator-based green incentive, will the Government advise on the following:

- (1) the estimated expenditure on each of the above schemes in 2026-27;
- (2) the expected number of vessels benefiting from each scheme;
- (3) the relevant staffing involved in the monitoring, checking, system development and construction for implementing the above schemes.

Asked by: Hon CHIU Duncan (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

- (1, 2 & 3) The Government will introduce the Green Vessels Registration Incentive Scheme and the Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels for 3 years from 2026 to provide incentive for green vessels registered in Hong Kong and port dues concessions for vessels powered by green fuel as well as those carrying green fuels.

Under the Green Vessels Registration Incentive Scheme, an annual incentive of \$60,000 will be provided for each Hong Kong-registered vessel powered by green maritime fuels (including both existing and newly registered vessels), involving an expenditure of about \$23.2 million. The scheme will help further promote the green fleet of the Hong Kong Shipping Registry, encourage green transformation of Hong Kong-registered vessels and enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness in the

international maritime arena. The estimated expenditure on the incentive scheme in 2026-27 is \$5.5 million. It is expected to attract about 100 new green vessels to register in Hong Kong within the three-year period, accounting for about a quarter of the global number of new green vessels during the same period. Together with the current green maritime fuel-powered vessels, it is estimated that about 170 Hong Kong-registered vessels powered by green maritime fuels will benefit from the scheme by 2028-29. The incentive scheme is undertaken by staff under existing establishment. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower involved.

The Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels will offer a 25% or 50% reduction in port dues to ocean-going vessels powered by, carrying and/or bunkering specified green maritime fuels in Hong Kong for a period of 3 years, involving an expenditure of about \$10.7 million. The estimated expenditure on the incentive scheme in 2026-27 is \$3.2 million. Such measure will reduce the cost of green maritime fuel bunkering for vessels in Hong Kong, and it is expected to attract over 1 000 relevant vessel calls or bunkering of green maritime fuels in Hong Kong during the three-year period. The above incentive scheme is undertaken by staff under existing establishment. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower involved.

The green incentive was launched on 28 June 2024 for a period of 3 years to encourage green transformation of Hong Kong-registered ships. All Hong Kong-registered ships of 5 000 gross tonnage or above that have attained rating A or B in the Carbon Intensity Indicator formulated by the International Maritime Organization are eligible for the green incentive. Each qualified Hong Kong-registered ship is eligible to receive \$20,000 per corresponding year from 2024 to 2026. The estimated expenditure on the green incentive in 2026-27 is \$24.32 million. Since the implementation of the incentive in June 2024, as at 28 February 2026, the Marine Department has received a total of 1 529 applications from 984 ships, among which 1 509 applications from 974 ships have been approved. 3 additional contract staff have been employed since 2024 to assist in processing the application of the green incentive.

- End -