

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB055

(Question Serial No. 2368)

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 measures to reinforce Hong Kong's position as an international maritime centre and promote green shipping, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. the numbers of applications received and approved under the three-year Carbon Intensity Indicator-based green incentive and the block registration incentive since their launch; and
2. the specific details, eligibility criteria, subsidy amounts and estimated total expenditure of the 2 new three-year schemes to be introduced in 2026 as mentioned in the document, namely the Green Vessels Registration Incentive Scheme and the Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels.

Asked by: Hon WONG Ho-ming, Augustine (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

1. The green incentive was launched on 28 June 2024 to encourage green transformation of the shipping industry. 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. As at 28 February 2026, the Marine Department (MD) has received a total of 1 529 applications, 1 509 of which have been approved.

The block registration incentive was launched on 14 February 2025 to attract more shipowners to register their ships in Hong Kong. Shipowners who register more than 1 eligible ship with the Hong Kong Shipping Registry within 24 months may be provided with a refund of the relevant ship registration fee and the first-year annual tonnage charge. 1 application may cover ships of different shipowners and may be submitted by a shipowner, ship manager or ship agent. As at 28 February 2026, MD

has received a total of 28 applications, involving 87 ships with gross tonnage of about 5.5 million. Among them, 53 ships (with gross tonnage of about 4 million) have completed registration.

2. 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 mid-2026 to provide incentive for green vessels registered in Hong Kong and port dues concessions for vessels powered by green fuels 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. 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.

As for the Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels, a 25% or 50% port dues incentive will be offered 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. 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.

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