

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB281

(Question Serial No. 3304)

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:

To expedite the establishment of Hong Kong as a green maritime fuel bunkering and trading centre, the Budget proposed to provide port dues concessions for green vessels and offer incentives for green vessels registered in Hong Kong, involving subsidies of \$34 million. Under Programme (3), the Bureau will work with relevant departments to implement initiatives to support the development of green maritime fuel in Hong Kong. In this connection, will the Government advise on the expected number of vessels that will bunker in Hong Kong and the expected number of new registration of vessels as a result of the introduction of the concessions and incentives? Will there be any time limit for such concessions and incentives?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

To expedite the establishment of Hong Kong as a green maritime fuel bunkering and trading centre, the Marine Department (MD) will introduce the Port Dues Incentive Scheme for Green Maritime Fuel-related Vessels (Port Dues Incentive Scheme) to reduce certain port fees for green maritime fuel-related vessels (relevant vessels), aiming to help lower the cost of transitioning to green maritime fuels and attract more relevant vessels to call at Hong Kong for bunkering. The Port Dues Incentive Scheme will be effective from 2026 for a period of 3 years. We plan to offer a 25% or 50% port dues incentive to ocean-going vessels powered by, carrying and/or bunkering specified green maritime fuels in Hong Kong. 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, involving a total expenditure of \$10.7 million.

In addition, the Government will launch the three-year Green Vessels Registration Incentive Scheme to provide an annual incentive of \$60,000 for each Hong Kong-registered vessel powered by green maritime fuels (including both existing and newly registered vessels). The total expenditure involved is about \$23.2 million. The incentive 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.

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