

政府總部
經濟發展及勞工局
香港下亞厘畢道
中區政府合署



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Ms Debbie Yau
Clerk to Subcommittee
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

9 September 2004

Dear Ms Yau,

Typhoon arrangement for over-length vessels

When the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Typhoon Shelters) Regulation was discussed at the Subcommittee on Subsidiary Legislation in March 2004, Members expressed concern about insufficient typhoon facilities for vessels with length overall exceeding the permitted length overall specified for typhoon shelters ("over-length vessels").

2. To address Members' concern, the Marine Department (MD) has explored means to provide more choices of typhoon arrangements for over-length vessels, including the provision of new private mooring areas and relaxation of length restriction of typhoon shelters.

Establishment of new private mooring areas

3. In identifying new private mooring sites, MD takes into consideration factors such as protection from inclement weather, water depth, marine traffic implications, and user acceptability. Preliminary assessments indicate that a site off Sham Shui Kok has the potential of being developed into a mooring site for over-length vessels. Further detailed assessments will be conducted to address related issues, including risk of marine pollution and

potential visual impact. In the assessment process, MD will consult the industry, the Provisional Local Vessel Advisory Committee and the relevant District Council.

Relaxation of length restriction of typhoon shelters

4. In addition, MD is also reviewing the existing length restriction of typhoon shelters, focusing in particular on the scope for relaxing the restriction in remote typhoon shelters which are less busy and have spare capacity. The need to modify the fairway will be examined in the review.

5. I should be grateful if you could keep Members informed of the above progress.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Florence Chan)

for Secretary for Economic Development and Labour

c.c. Director of Marine (Attn.: Mr F L Cheuk and Mr Y N Chan)