

**Air Pollution Control (Marine Light Diesel) Regulation
Subcommittee Meeting**

In the meeting on 18 February 2014, the Subcommittee asked the Environmental Protection Department to further respond in respect of the definitions of "warship" and "other vessel for military service", to give examples of these vessels, and to provide their arrival and departure statistics in Hong Kong waters in the past three years and their air pollutant emissions. This paper provides the relevant information.

"Warship" and "other vessel for military service"

2. "Warship" and "other vessel for military service" refer to "military vessel" in general. Military vessel is mentioned in some pieces of legislation (such as the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) Regulation, Cap. 413A and the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution) Regulation, Cap. 413M) but is not defined therein. When enforcing the legislation concerned, the relevant departments would consider the following factors in determining whether the vessels are military vessels (including warship and other vessel for military service) -

- (a) belonging to the armed forces of a state;
- (b) bearing external marks that distinguish the nationality of such ships; and
- (c) under the command of an officer commissioned by the government of the state.

These considerations are consistent with international practices. In enforcing the Air Pollution Control (Marine Light Diesel) Regulation, we will adopt the same factors in considering whether the concerned vessel is a military vessel.

3. Warship and other vessel for military service both belong to the naval establishment, with the latter supporting operations of the former. A typical example of the latter is a fleet replenishment oiler.

Arrival and departure statistics of military vessels in Hong Kong waters in the past three years

4. According to information provided by the Marine Department, the types of warship arriving at and departing from Hong Kong in the past three years include command and control ship, guided missile cruiser, super-carrier, missile destroyer, mine countermeasures ship, guided missile frigate and amphibious assault ship, etc. The types of other vessel for military service include dock landing ship, submarine tender, amphibious transport dock, training ship, fleet replenishment oiler, etc. Based on the information, the arrival statistics of military vessels is as follows.

Year	2011	2012	2013
Warship (vessel-call)	28	13	15
Other vessel for military service (vessel-call)	2	4	4

Air Pollutant Emissions

5. Since we do not have the relevant technical information about military vessels (such as engine specifications), it is hard to estimate their emissions of air pollutants. However, every year there are only about 20 military vessels calling Hong Kong, which account only for a very small percentage of the total number of calls (about 30,000) of ocean-going vessels to Hong Kong. Therefore, the emissions from military vessels account for a very small percentage of the total emissions from the marine sector.

Environmental Protection Department
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