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28 June 2017

Ms Shirley Chan
Clerk to Panel on Economic Development
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Chan,

**Subcommittee on Legislative Amendments for Imposing Conditions on
Vessels Navigating in the Vicinity of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge**

Submission from Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium

Thank you for your letter of 22 June 2017, enclosing a submission from the Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium concerning the legislative proposal to impose conditions on vessels navigating in the vicinity of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (“HZMB”). Our comment is set out in the following paragraphs.

Impact on Fishing Activities

The Hong Kong Fishermen Consortium is concerned that the legislative proposal may affect fishing operations or result in the loss of fishing ground. We have not proposed any restriction on navigation speed or fishing activities. The proposal seeks to impose restrictions on the height, length and direction of vessels navigating under the Hong Kong Link Road (“HKLR”) and the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link (“TM-CLKL”), with a view to preventing bridge-vessel collision and ensuring marine safety. The height restrictions to be imposed along the navigation channels of HKLR and TM-CLKL of HZMB range from five to 41 metres. While vessels exceeding 10 metres in length will be prohibited from passing through the navigation channel under one of the three

highest arches of HKLR, they can still use the other two navigation channels that allow vessels up to 41 metres to pass through. The impact on fishing vessels should be minimal.

Consultation Process

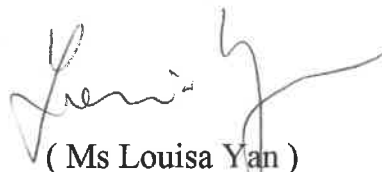
Before introducing the legislative proposals into the Legislative Council, Marine Department ("MD") has consulted stakeholders including representatives from the fishing industry through the consultative committees under MD. We cherish the views from the public and stakeholders and count on their support in implementing the legislation. We will look into areas that we can further improve in the consultation process.

Dissemination of Information

To raise awareness of the control scheme, MD will organise seminars and briefings to frequent users of the waters around HKLR and TM-CLKL (including fishermen) to familiarise them with the arrangements. MD will also distribute leaflets to enhance their understanding of the different navigation aids and signage.

Should you have any enquiries, please feel free to contact me at 3509 8162. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Louisa Yan)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing