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26 November 2020

To: All Masters of Hong Kong registered ships, Hong Kong Ship Managers,
Hong Kong Shipowners

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Port State Detention of Hong Kong Registered Ships
in Australia Ports**

In 2020 up to today there are 21 ships detained in various ports of Australia.

2. It is alarming. The Hong Kong Marine Department (HKMD) hereby asks all ship managers and owners of ships calling Australia ports to **take immediate action** to inspect the ships with focus on the following areas identified from the recent PSC detention cases:

Item	Detainable Deficiency	Frequency
1	Fire-dampers	11%
2	Maintenance of the ship and equipment	11%
3	Lifeboats	11%
4	Sewage treatment plant	7%
5	Cargo operation	7%
6	Shipboard operations	7%
7	Other (fire safety)	7%
8	Other (ISM)	7%
9	Covers (hatchway-, portable-, tarpaulins, etc.)	7%
10	Operational readiness of lifesaving appliances	7%
11	Other (Conditions of employment)	4%
12	Fire pumps and its pipes	4%
13	Emergency fire pump and its pipes	4%
14	Reports of non-conf., accidents & hazardous occur.	4%
15	Rescue boats	4%
Total		100%

3. The attached pre-arrival checklist must be diligently filled in and , verified by DPA, and returned to HKMD for ships prior to calling Australia ports. All equipment is subject to failure and spares or replacement parts may not be readily available. In such cases prior to entering port, HKMD and port State should be notified, safe alternative arrangements are made and plan to rectify the defects is drawn up. Such proactive actions will minimize the chances of ship being detained.

4. We remind you that subsequent flag administration action such as FSQC Audit, applicable additional ISM/MLC audits, and RO's extended inspection will likely be followed for each PSC detention.

5. Your attention is also drawn to the Marine Notice 10/2020 issued by Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on the maximum continuous period that a seafarer serves on board a ship. From 28 February 2021, AMSA will not accept the continuous period more than 11 months, failing which the ship may be resulted in delay in port or even PSC detention.

6. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Quality Assurance Section as follows:

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Yours faithfully,

No signature on website copy

(C. Zhang)
Senior Surveyor of Ships
Quality Assurance Section
for Director of Marine

Encl: PSC inspection (pre-arrival) checklist (July 2020)