



HONG KONG  
MARITIME AND PORT BOARD

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## HONG KONG'S TLB SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GUANGZHOU PORT AUTHORITY

The Greater Bay Maritime Conference held on 19 May, was the setting for the signing of a historic cooperation agreement between Hong Kong's Transport and Logistics Bureau and the Guangzhou Port Authority. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) paves the way for greater cooperation between Hong Kong's maritime cluster and its counterparts in the Greater Bay Area (GBA).

Hailing the agreement, Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive John Lee said:

"The agreement will lay a solid foundation to enhance our co-operation and professional exchanges on various fronts, from manpower training to high value-added maritime services."

In accordance with the MoU, Mr Lee added that, "We will promote the exchange of expertise, cooperate in publicity and capacity building, and enhance the professional standards in the maritime industry among key maritime players in the GBA."

Also addressing the Conference, Secretary for Transport and Logistics Lam Sai-hung described the MoU as a concrete example of tapping the GBA synergy to enhance mutual competitiveness.

"By establishing a collaboration mechanism, sharing regulatory and management standards, enhancing promotion as well as manpower exchanges, Hong Kong is set to drive the development of a world-class port cluster with high-value added maritime services," he said.

Alongside other agreements signed at the Conference The Hong Kong Shipowners Association and the Guangzhou Navigation College sealed a pact to cooperate and jointly promote maritime education and training in the GBA.

With the signing of these agreements Hong Kong is increasingly able to play on its strengths as an international shipping centre and logistics hub to fuel the GBA's development, and in turn consolidate the country's development aims.



The Acting Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Mr Liu Chun-san, JP, signed the MoU at the 2023 Greater Bay Maritime Conference.



# LNG BUNKERING IN HONG KONG MOVES A STEP CLOSER

On May 11, MOL FSRU Terminal (Hong Kong), a subsidiary of Japan's Mitsui OSK Lines, received the first LNG cargo for Hong Kong. The latest development comes shortly after the berthing of the world's largest floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) at the LNG terminal situated in the southwestern waters of Hong Kong. The terminal has been developed and constructed by CLP Power and HK Electric and will be operated by the Hong Kong LNG Terminal Limited (HKLTL), a joint venture between the two companies.

To facilitate the arrival of the FSRU, the Government proposed a raft of legislative amendments, which was tabled at the Legislative Council on 15 March.

The legislative amendments included providing a new multipurpose anchorage for contingency berthing of LNG carriers and establishing a pilot boarding station in the southwest of Lamma Island, setting up new principal fairways in the south of Shek Kwu Chau, specifying the LNG terminal as an "approved petroleum wharf" and adding a new vessel type as "gas carrier" for regulating the operation of the FSRU vessel, etc.

The legislation have paved the way for ship-to-ship LNG bunkering.

The FSRU vessel has an overall length of 345m and an LNG storage capacity of 263,000m<sup>3</sup>. HKLTL has signed a long-term time charter agreement with Japan's MOL. The vessel is now moored at the jetty of the LNG terminal and will receive, store and regasify LNG before it is supplied to CLP Power's Black Point Power Station and HK Electric's Lamma Power Station through two separate subsea gas pipelines.

Commenting on the project, CLP Power's managing director said: "CLP Power has adopted a fuel diversity strategy since the early 1990s for supply reliability, competitive cost and environmental benefits. To complement the HKSAR Government's energy policy, we have substantially increased the proportion of natural gas in our fuel mix to around 50% since 2020.

"Natural gas is a transition fuel that supports Hong Kong's journey towards its 2050 carbon neutrality target by lowering the carbon intensity of power generation."

# HONG KONG MARITIME WEEK 2023

Preparations are underway for the seventh edition of Hong Kong Maritime Week (HKMW), a must-attend event for local and international industry players. HKMW 2023 will be held from 19-25 November. Building on the success of the event since 2016, the re-opening of Hong Kong will bring in more international events to the Week which promises to be an up scaled one.

HKMW 2023 is organised by the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, with the Hong Kong Shipowners Association and the Hong Kong Maritime Museum as co-organisers, the Invest Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council as partners.

Twelve world-leading maritime organisations have agreed to offer their whole-hearted support to this year's HKMW. They are: the Asian Shipowners' Association, Baltic and International Maritime Council, China Maritime Law Association, China Shipowners' Association, China Shipowners Mutual Assurance Association, Comité Maritime International, Hong Kong Maritime Law Association, International Chamber of Shipping, International Group of P&I Clubs, International Union of Marine Insurance, Maritime London, and The London Maritime Arbitrators Association.

Event recruitment among local and overseas organisations was launched in June. The closing deadline for applications is 31 August. Events in different formats including physical, online and hybrid versions are warmly welcome. Don't hesitate to contact the Secretariat of the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board if you are interested in bringing an event to the HKMW!

## ENHANCED MARITIME AND AVIATION INTERNSHIP SCHEME EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 2023

The Maritime and Aviation Internship Scheme, which operates under the auspices of the Government's Maritime and Aviation Training Fund (MATF), has this year released several enhancements specifically impacting eligibility criteria.

As from April 2023, local-full time students who are undertaking undergraduate or sub-degree programmes, irrespective of local institutions or years of study, shall all be eligible; as will full-time students undertaking undergraduate or sub-degree programmes in institutions outside Hong Kong, who are Hong Kong residents and lawfully employable in Hong Kong. The eligibility of secondary six school leavers to join the scheme is a first for the maritime sector.

Participating companies are afforded greater flexibility in their participation in the scheme as the eligible period for MATF's subsidy for intern's honorarium has been relaxed to any three months throughout the year. Not only do the enhancements better meet the scheme objective of offering the young generation an early exposure to the wide spectrum of career opportunities of the sector, but they also give the industries extra pairs of hands amidst the prevailing labour force shrinkage owing to population ageing.





# BIMCO HOLDS AGM IN HONG KONG

Sabrina Chao



**B**IMCO, one of the world's largest shipping associations, in the world, held its annual general meeting in Hong Kong on 25 May. The occasion saw former Hong Kong Shipowners Association Chairman and Chairman of Wah Kwong Maritime Transport Holdings, Sabrina Chao, step down as President after completing her two-year tenure.

Ms Chao presided over BIMCO at a critical time for shipping during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. One of her key priorities was to help increase the awareness of the important role that the industry, its seafarers and BIMCO members play in society.

In September 2020 BIMCO adopted the BIMCO Law and Arbitration Clause 2020. For the first time it included Hong Kong along with London, New York and Singapore in a unified wording agreed by all four venues.

The incorporation of Hong Kong in this new clause reflects Hong Kong's reputation as an efficient, expeditious and cost-effective venue for the resolution of maritime disputes.

## Upcoming Events

- Hong Kong Maritime Week 2023 (Hong Kong) [19-25 November 2023]
- Marintec China (Shanghai) [5-8 December 2023]

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