

Summary of Notes of Dangerous Goods Standing Committee Meeting held on 11 August 2022

Matters of Discussion

1. Review of Dangerous Goods Ordinance (DGO) / Regulations

Progress of the review:

- Implementation of the amended DGO, Cap. 295 and its subsidiary legislation

With effective from 25.7.2022, 3 DG offices had been established under the Licensing and Certification Command of FSD, namely the Dangerous Goods Legislation Division (DGL Division), Dangerous Goods Control Division (DGC Division) and Dangerous Goods Enforcement Division (DGE Division). DGL Division would be responsible for planning, formulating and reviewing policies and measures for the control of DG. DGC Division would be responsible for handling licence applications for the manufacture, storage and use of DG. DGE Division would be responsible for handling fire protection related offences with imminent danger; licence applications for the conveyance of DG, storage of Class 9A DG and operations of timber stores; as well as applications for the approval of pressure receptacles.

A webinar “FSD Connects with the Relevant Industries of Dangerous Goods” was scheduled for 26.8.2022.

- Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulations

There was no update to report.

2. Safe Operation of Petrol Filling Station (PFS)

From May to July 2022, the Dangerous Goods Enforcement Team (DGET) of FSD had conducted surprise inspections to 4 PFS during which fire safety advice was given to the operators.

3. Enforcement Actions Related to Over-Storage of Dangerous Goods

From May to July 2022, DGET had conducted 211 surprise inspections to hardware and chemical material stores and had taken relevant enforcement actions against cases of over-storage of DG.

4. Fire Safety at Oil Depots

The progress on the Voluntary Mutual Aid Scheme – Provision of Reserve Foam Concentrate in the Event of a Major Oil Farm Incident was reported. A tabletop exercise was conducted successfully with an oil company on 20.6.2022 and the next tabletop exercise with another oil company was scheduled for December 2022.

Moreover, 6 oil companies had been visited for carrying out safety inspections between May to July 2022. Discussion sessions were also held with members of oil companies to facilitate their application and renewal of DG licences under the amended DGO.

5. Safe Operation at DG stores

From May to July 2022, DGC Division had carried out 614 surprise inspections to approved DG stores. In addition, FSD had been arranging discussion sessions and briefing sessions to the licensees and operators of major DG stores to facilitate their application and renewal of DG licences under the amended DGO within the 24-month transitional period.