

Summary of Notes of Dangerous Goods Standing Committee Meeting held on 12 August 2021

Matters of Discussion

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

Progress of the review:

➤ Dangerous Goods (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2021

The Dangerous Goods (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2021 was published in the Gazette on 2.7.2021 and introduced into the Legislative Council on 14.7.2021.

➤ Publication of Codes of Practice (CoP)

With no adverse comment received for DGSC paper No. 2/2021 on Codes of Practice for Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Ordinance - Contents and Principles, the CoP would be drafted based on the contents and principles stipulated in the paper. Relevant trades, government departments and stakeholders would be engaged in the process of drafting the CoP.

➤ Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulations

There was no update to report.

2. Safe Operation of Petrol Filling Station (PFS)

From May 2021 to July 2021, the Dangerous Goods Enforcement Team (DGET) of FSD had conducted surprise inspections to 31 PFS during which fire safety advice was given to the operators.

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

From May 2021 to July 2021, FSD had conducted 124 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 in June 2021.

5. Safe Operation at DG stores

From May 2021 to July 2021, Dangerous Goods Division of FSD had carried out 1,368 surprise inspections to approved DG stores to ensure the continuous compliance of the Fire Safety Requirements (FSR) issued.

The operators of DG stores were reminded to conduct regular stock take and inspections to ensure the storage environment was safe and the containers of DG were in good condition.

6. Review on Fire Safety Requirements for Dangerous Goods Vehicles

DGSC Paper No. 1/2021 on Review on Fire Safety Requirements (FSR) for Tank Wagon used for Conveyance of Category 5 Dangerous Goods was circulated among members with no adverse comment received. Two workshops were conducted in June 2021 for introducing the revised FSR to the licencees of DG tank wagons and vehicle mechanics.

The revised FSR had been brought into effect on 1.7.2021 with a 3-month grace period to ensure smooth transition to the revised FSR and minimize the impact to the industry.