

**Summary of Notes of Dangerous Goods Standing Committee Meeting
held on 10 Sep 2020**

Matters of Discussion

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

Progress of the review:

- Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations (DG(G)R) & Dangerous Goods (Application and Exemption) Regulation (DG(A&E)R 2012)

A consultation exercise had been launched by the Working Group between June to August 2020 to update the trades on the progress of the legislative amendments. A total of 6 briefing sessions were conducted with over 1,300 attendees. In addition, a bilingual information paper was circulated to the Wholesale and Retail Task Force to solicit members' views. The overall feedback received throughout the exercise was very supportive.

The 2nd English consolidated draft of DG(A&E)R 2012 and the 16th English working draft of DG(G)R were released by the Department of Justice. Besides, the drafting of Code of Practice was in progress.

- Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulations

There was no update to report.

2. Safe Operation of Petrol Filling Station (PFS)

Operators of PFS were advised not to sell petrol in bulk exceeding the statutory exempt quantity unless their customers arranged a licensed DG vehicle for conveyance of petrol.

3. Enhancement of Security Measures for Dangerous Goods Stores

A meeting was held with the Tertiary Institution Safety Advisory Group (TISAG) to review the effectiveness of the enhanced security measures implemented by the tertiary institutions. The representatives of

TISAG expressed their support to the new DG Ordinance in upholding DG safety during the meeting.

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

To ensure public safety, Fire Services Department (FSD) continued to conduct surprise inspections and take relevant enforcement actions against cases of over-storage of DG.

5. 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.

6. Dangerous Goods Safety Consent in the Aftermath of Explosion in Beirut Port

A massive explosion occurred at the port of Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, on 4.8.2020 had caused heavy casualties and property damage. According to the news and relevant footages, the purported cause of the incident involved a large quantity of dangerous substances stored at the port with unsafe condition in the vicinity.

In this regard, FSD had issued letters to remind all licensees of DG stores and DG vehicles of their legal liability to comply with the fire safety requirements issued for their licenses. Operators of private DG warehouses were also reminded to conduct regular stock taking and inspection to ensure the storage environment was safe and the containers of DG were in good condition without any leakage or damage.