Summary of Notes of Dangerous Goods Standing Committee Meeting held on 25 Feb 2021

Matters of Discussion

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

Progress of the review:

Dangerous Goods (Control) Regulation (DG(C)R) (formerly named as Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations) & Dangerous Goods (Application and Exemption) Regulation

The members of Security Panel of the Legislative Council were consulted regarding the proposed amendments to the revamped regulations with positive feedback. DG(C)R and Dangerous Goods (Application and Exemption) Regulation 2012 (Amendment) Regulation 2021 were published in the Gazette and introduced into the Legislative Council for negative vetting.

Security Bureau (SB) had kicked off the consequential amendment exercise to other legislations arising from the proposed amendments to DG regulations to avoid inconsistencies among legal provisions. Fire Services Department (FSD) had been working closely with SB, Department of Justice and other relevant Bureaux/Departments to complete the DG (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill.

Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulations

There was no update to report.

2. Safe Operation of Petrol Filling Station (PFS)

The Dangerous Goods Enforcement Team of FSD had continued to conduct surprise inspections to PFS during which fire safety advice was given to the operators.

3. Enhancement of Security Measures for Dangerous Goods Stores

There was no reported case regarding any loss of DG or improper use of DG in the universities after the last Tertiary Institution Safety Advisory Group meeting conducted in June 2020. The DG stores in the universities were found to be in order as well.

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

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

5. Fire Safety at Oil Depots

A tabletop exercise was conducted successfully with an oil company in December 2020 under the Voluntary Mutual Aid Scheme – Provision of Reserve Foam Concentrate in the Event of a Major Oil Farm Incident.

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

FSD was highly concerned about the explosion in Beirut and would continue to carry out surprise inspections to approved DG stores to ensure their compliance with the fire safety requirements. Operators of DG stores were also reminded to remain cautious when hot works or welding process took place near DG stores.