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(ACE Paper 58/96)
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**Increase of Fees under
Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374)
Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (Cap. 403)
Dumping at Sea Ordinance (Cap. 466)**

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to inform Members of a proposed increases in fees. A separate paper (ACE Paper 59/96) seeking Members' advice on a fee revision proposal under other ordinances should be read in conjunction with this paper.

BACKGROUND

2. It is Government policy that fees should, in general, be set at levels sufficient to recover the full cost of providing the services. The fees concerned were last revised in June 1994. Members were informed in April 1995 that we intended to increase the fees in line with the increase in costs since their last revision. The proposal was, however, not implemented in 1995 because of the Legislative Council's decision to freeze all government fees and charges. As the revenue received from fees continues to pull further below the costs of providing the services, we consider it appropriate to propose new increases in the fee levels.

Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374)

3. We propose to increase the fees for the three items under Schedule 10 of the Road Traffic Ordinance. These relate to emissions from motor vehicles.

4. In order to avoid a large increase in one go, we intend to phase in full cost recovery over the next two to three years.

Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (Cap. 403)

5. We propose to amend the fees for registration under the Ozone Layer Protection (Fees) Regulations. These relate to the import or export of scheduled substances.

6. Again, in order to avoid large fee increases overnight, we intend to phase in full cost recovery by 1997-98.

Dumping at Sea Ordinance (Cap. 466)

7. We propose to amend the fees under the Dumping at Sea (Fees) Regulation. These relate to permits for dumping at sea.

8. As the increases involved are not of too great a magnitude, we propose to recover the full cost of providing the services, based on 1996-97 costs.

THE PROPOSALS

9. It is proposed to revise fees under the prescribed ordinances as follows:

	<u>Existing</u> \$	<u>Revised</u> \$	<u>% of full</u> <u>cost</u> <u>recovery</u>
Road Traffic Ordinance - Cap. 374 Schedule 10			
- Fee payable for designation or renewal of designation of a place as a vehicle emission testing centre	1,205	1,990	60%
- Fee to be charged in respect of a test of a motor vehicle (\$/examination)	170	230	80%
- Fee payable for supply of form of certificate of compliance (\$/certificate)	17	22	80%
Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance - Cap. 403. Ozone Layer Protection (Fees) Regulations			
- The fee for registration under section 5	1,505	2,090	80%
- The fee for a licence to import or export issued under section 6(1)	755	850	100%

	<u>Existing</u> <u>under the</u> <u>DLF</u> \$	<u>Revised</u> \$	<u>% of full</u> <u>cost</u> <u>recovery</u>
Dumping at Sea Ordinance - Cap. 466			
A new regulation to replace the Determination of Licence Fees (DLF)			
- Permit referred to in section 10(1) of the Ordinance to dump the following substances in the territorial waters of Hong Kong or in the sea outside such waters:			
(a) spoil	7,515	9,000	100%
(b) other substances or articles	15,030	18,210	100%
- Certified copy of any entry in the register under section 6(1) of the Ordinance	N.A.	150	

CONCLUSION

10. Members are requested to note the contents of this paper. We intend to implement the revised fees in January 1997.

Planning, Environment & Lands Branch
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