

Fishing Vessel Ji Wen No.1688 Major Marine Occurrence

Executive Summary

On June 4, 2024, at approximately 1100 hours local time, the Taiwan-flagged fishing vessel Ji Wen No.1688 (hereinafter referred to as “the vessel”), registration number CT6-1471 and gross tonnage 1327, was stopped for main engine repairs on the high seas of the South Pacific Ocean, approximately 448 nautical miles southwest of Betio Island, Kiribati, with four crew members on board. During the repair operation, a fire broke out in the engine room. After unsuccessful firefighting efforts, the master ordered the abandonment of the vessel and requested assistance from the nearby fishing vessel “Lian Ji Fa No. 98.” All four crew members were rescued by the assisting vessel at approximately 1330 hours. The vessel continued burning and sank at approximately 1800 hours. The occurrence resulted in the total loss of the vessel; no casualties or pollution were reported.

In accordance with the Transportation Occurrence Investigation Act, Taiwan, and the definition of major transportation occurrences specified therein, the Taiwan Transportation Safety Board was the independent agency in charge of investigating the marine accident. The organizations and agencies invited to participate in the investigation included the Maritime and Port Bureau of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, the Fisheries Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture, and Jyi Horng Fishery Co., Ltd.

After comprehensive investigation and analysis of the factual data, a total of 1 finding was obtained.

The finding related to probable causes is as follows:

1. After burning continuously for approximately seven hours, the vessel sank completely, resulting in the loss of relevant evidence. This

occurrence was classified as a Class III marine casualty.

Note: The final report of this occurrence investigation is published in Chinese. To facilitate understanding for non-Chinese readers, the Executive Summary has been translated into English. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, discrepancies may occur. In the event of any inconsistency, the Chinese version shall prevail.