



**PRESS RELEASE 2015-015**

April 2015

**Contact: Atty. Jabeth A. Dacanay**  
Deputy Executive Director, STCWO  
Chief of Staff, Office of the Administrator  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (MARINA)  
Tel. No. 523.9078  
Email: [oadm13@gmail.com](mailto:oadm13@gmail.com)

**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) TO LEAD SHIPPING MEET IN MANILA ON APRIL 24, 2015**



MANILA, Philippines - The International Maritime Organization (IMO) headed by its Secretary-General Koji Sekimizu will hold a 'Conference on the Enhancement and Safety of Ships Carrying Passengers on Non-International Voyages' (CESSCPNIV) on April 24, 2015 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Pasay City, Metro Manila, Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Administrator Dr. Maximo Q. Mejia, Jr. of host IMO member Philippines announced on Monday (April 13, 2015).

'The conference aims to draw attention of stakeholders-both from the government and the private sector-on imperatives to effectively improve safety of ships carrying passengers on non-international voyages to consider and make recommendations in relation to a number of guidelines which have been developed for the purpose of expanding the already available technical assistance tools' said Mejia during a meeting with Authority officials and representatives from the World Maritime University (WMU) at MARINA national office in Manila.

"The guidelines have been developed as technical assistance tools, and these have also been drafted for use by governments, owners, managers, operators and masters of such ships, as well as by designers, consultants and surveyors of ships concerned", added Mejia.

“Due to the limited duration of the Conference, a preparatory meeting for tabling and discussing proposals to improve the proposed guidelines has been set at 2:30 pm To 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 23, 2015, at Room No. 14, 3rd floor, Delegation Building, PICC”, according to MARINA Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAO) lawyer Gloria V. Banas. Atty. Banas added that the Philippines is also making arrangements for participants who wish to visit a port terminal in Manila serving ships providing interisland passenger transport services on Saturday (April 25) morning.

“Under IMO Circular Letter No.3538, dated March 17, 2015, the medium of communications in the Conference, including the preparatory meeting and during the visit to the port terminal, and all related documents will only be the English language”, said Conference Philippine focal person Ms. Sonia B. Malaluan, who is MARINA Director for Management, Financial and Administrative Services (MFAS).

Governments and organizations interested to be represented in the Conference, should inform the Secretary-General by submitting the names of members of their delegations (heads, members, and alternates; advisers observers, as appropriate) nominated to participate in the Conference. The list which serves as authorization to attend the Conference, must be on official letter-headed paper and signed by the responsible or duly authorized officer of the Government or organization concerned. The list and the pre-registration forms should be sent by email to [aps@imo.org](mailto:aps@imo.org) or by fax to + 44(0)20 75873210 by Friday, April 17, 2015, at the latest.

With headquarters in London, IMO is a specialized United Nations agency to develop a comprehensive regulatory framework for shipping, protection of marine environment and safe ship operations, and currently has 171 members and three associate members. Membership in the IMO is by country. IMO which was known as the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) until 1982, was established in Geneva in 1948. It came into force 10 years later, meeting for the first time in 1959.

IMO has, so far, produced around 60 legal instruments guiding the regulatory development of its member states to improve safety of life at sea (SOLAS), facilitate trade among seafaring states and protect the maritime environment. Recent initiatives at IMO included ‘upgrading’ fire protection standards on passenger ships, the international convention on standards of training, certification and watchkeeping (STCW) for seafarers, and convention on the prevention of maritime pollution (MARPOL 73/76) which required ‘double hulls’ on ‘all’ oil tankers.

---

---

## **MARINA, MARITIME PHILIPPINES, we move the world**

The Maritime Industry Authority is an attached agency of the Department of Transportation and Communications tasked to accelerate the integrated development of the maritime industry in the country. It has been implementing reforms and programs to transform the country's domestic shipping industry to global competitiveness and the MARINA into a premiere maritime administration in Southeast Asia. For more information, visit [marina.gov.ph](http://marina.gov.ph).



**MARITIME PHILIPPINES**



Parkview Plaza, 984 Taft Ave. cor. TM Kalaw, Ermita, Manila    Tel No. 526-9071; 523-9078    Email: [oadm@marina.gov.ph](mailto:oadm@marina.gov.ph)