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MARINA CONDUCTS DIALOGUE FOR “LIGTAS BIYAHENG DAGAT”

On instruction of Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Administrator Dr. Maximo Q. Mejia, Jr., consultative dialogues for prompt implementation of “Ligtas Biyaheng Dagat” (safe travel by sea) program were conducted by the Authority’s enforcement service (ES) in various areas in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao over the past several weeks.

Stakeholders gathered in Batangas, Palawan, Boracay, and the cities of Dumaguete, Tacloban, Davao, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro and Gen. Santos and participated in the dialogues to promote and observe proper safety measures on board ships and passenger motor bancas operating in domestic trade, in coordination with heads of MARINA regional offices (MEROs) and representatives of the Philippines Coast Guard (PCG), said ES officer-in-charge Atty. Herschel F. Magracia.

“MARINA wants full observance of safety culture on board vessels, and avoid maritime accidents”, Magracia pointed out, adding MARINA also explained the penalties for violation of the Authority’s memorandum circulars relative to the safety of passengers and the vessels’ seaworthiness.

During the dialogues, stakeholders showed enthusiasm on MARINA’s requirements on passengers’ safety and parameters for ships’ seaworthiness, prompting them to raise concerns for appropriate action, as a regulatory and development enhancing body. With ‘Ligtas Biyang Dagat’ campaign, stakeholders were likewise expected to bear compliant with MARINA’s policies, and ensure safe maritime transport.

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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.



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