

## ***Brief News Write-up:***

### ***National Workshop on Flag State Implementation (FSI) in Manila***



At the 105<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Administrator Emerson M. Lorenzo, during his courtesy call to the Secretary-General, was able to secure funding by the IMO for the delivery of the following workshops in the country for 2011:

1. National Workshop on Flag State Implementation (FSI);
2. National Workshop on Anti-Fouling Systems;
3. National Workshop on the MANILA Amendments to the STCW Convention and its associated Code;
4. Regional Workshop on the IMO Member State Audit Scheme; and,
5. National Workshop on the Hong Kong Convention on Ship Recycling.

Organized by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) in close cooperation with the IMO, a five (5) day National Workshop on Flag State Implementation (FSI) was delivered from 17 to 21 January 2011 at the Casa Marinero, Intramuros, Manila.

The workshop which aims to assist the Philippines in the effective discharge of its overall responsibilities as a Flag State was conducted by IMO VIMSAS Lead Auditor and Lead Consultant Capt. Huseyin Cahit Yalcin from Turkey, Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs PSCO Capt. Eun-Dong Choi from South Korea and Regional Coordinator, IMO Regional Presence for Technical Cooperation in East Asia, Atty. Brenda V. Pimentel from the Philippines. The workshop also seeks to strengthen the institutional capability of the MARINA as the Flag Administration for the effective implementation on IMO conventions on safety standards, pollution prevention and protection of the marine environment.

The workshop which enhanced the awareness of the participants towards an effective flag state implementation and fulfillment of international obligations provided knowledge and advice on the structure and mechanism necessary for enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of implementation of the provisions of the mandatory IMO instruments and the Code for the Implementation of the Mandatory IMO Instruments.

A total of 62 participants from MARINA and representatives from the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and National Mapping and Resources Information Authority (NAMRIA) attended the workshop. Representatives from Philippine Interisland Shipowner's Association (PISA) and Philippine Association of Manning Agencies (PAMAS) also participated in the workshop.