



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

PCSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

KEYNOTE SPEECH

26 January 2024
Cebu City

SONIA B. MALALUAN
Administrator
Maritime Industry Authority

TO PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD DEPUTY COMMANDANT VICE ADMIRAL ROLANDO PUNZALAN JR.; TO PCSA CHAIRMAN MR. LUCIO ROGER LIM JR.; TO PCSA PRESIDENT MR. PAUL RODRIGUEZ; TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE COASTWISE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION, INC., LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, A LOVELY FRIDAY MORNING TO EACH AND EVERYONE. IT IS AN HONOR TO JOIN YOUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TODAY.

IN PREVIOUS YEARS, MARINA NOTED AN INCREASE IN THE ACQUISITION OF NEW SHIPS IN THE DOMESTIC TRADE, WITH THAT, I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE COASTWISE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION (PCSA) IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE PHILIPPINE MARITIME INDUSTRY PARTICULARLY IN THE DOMESTIC SHIPPING. YESTERDAY, I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SEEING MV LITE CAT 2, A TRUE MANIFESTATION OF HOW OUR DOMESTIC SHIPS HAVE EVOLVED, INDEED, ON TOP OF ITS LEAGUE, A SHOWCASE OF SAFE, CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE SEA TRANSPORT FACILITY.



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NOW, THAT PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS JR. IS WELL-AWARE ON THE THINGS THAT WE NEED IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE MARITIME SECTOR, IT IS VERY TIMELY TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS PARTICULARLY IN THE MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MARITIME SAFETY AND DELIVERY OF THE AGENCY'S SERVICES .

THE MARINA, IN COORDINATION WITH CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND RELEVANT MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS HAS UPDATED THE MIDP 2028 WHICH COVERS THE PROGRAM ON **MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF THE DOMESTIC SHIPPING INDUSTRY**. THIS PROGRAM AIMS TO INCREASE MODERN, SAFE AND EFFICIENT DOMESTIC MERCHANT FLEET IN THE NEXT FIVE (5) YEARS.

IT IS ALSO WORTH TO MENTION THAT THE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OF THE SAID PROGRAM OF THE MIDP 2028 WILL BE MEASURED BY MORE SUSTAINABLE, SAFE, EFFICIENT, MODERNIZED AND UPGRADED DOMESTIC SHIPPING OPERATIONS AND VESSELS; IMPROVED SEA TRANSPORT RELIABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY; IMPROVED / EXPANDED ROADS, PORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES.

ASIDE FROM THE MIDP 2028, WE, AT THE MARINA WILL ENDEAVOUR TO CONTINUOUSLY ENHANCE OUR POLICIES AND PROGRAMS ANCHORED BY OUR CAMPAIGN ENTITLED “**CHARTING A CLEAN COURSE, SAFELY SAILING TOGETHER**” AND THE 10-POINT AGENDA OF THIS ADMINISTRATION WHICH HIGHLIGHTS THE AREAS THAT WE WILL BE FOCUSING ON DURING MY TERM.



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THE 10-POINT AGENDA LIKEWISE COVERS THE ENHANCEMENT OF MARITIME SAFETY BY ADDRESSING THE CAUSES OF MARITIME INCIDENTS / ACCIDENTS.

- (1) IN LINE WITH THIS, ALL CONCERNED MARINA CENTRAL AND REGIONAL OFFICES ARE DIRECTED TO STRICTLY MONITOR IF ALL SAFETY POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PROCESSES INCLUDING OPERATIONAL TESTING DURING INSPECTION / SURVEY OF SHIPS ARE BEING FOLLOWED, AS WELL AS THE COMPLIANCE TO CLASS REQUIREMENTS OF ALL OUR DOMESTIC SHIPS, PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF SAFETY CERTIFICATES TO ALL TYPES OF VESSELS.
- (2) WE WILL ASSESS THE CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY OF THE THREE LOCAL MARINA ACCREDITED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES (MACS) IN CATERING THE CLASSIFICATION NEEDS OF OUR VESSELS.
- (3) ASIDE FROM SETTING UP THE REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS IN THE DOMESTIC SHIPPING SECTOR, WE ARE ALSO ADDRESSING THE COMPETENCE OF DOMESTIC CREWING PARTICULARLY THROUGH UPSKILLING AND RESKILLING OF DOMESTIC SEAFARERS.
- (4) WE ARE ALSO STRENGTHENING THE COLLABORATION WITH OUR PARTNER AGENCIES SUCH AS THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD.



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IN JULY OF THIS YEAR WE WILL LAUNCH OUR DIGITALIZATION PROJECT . THIS “DIGITALIZATION PROJECT” WILL ENSURE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS, I.E. STREAMLINED PROCESS AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF SERVICES BY PROVIDING AN ONLINE PORTAL FOR APPLICATION, PAYMENT, REAL TIME TRACKING OF STATUS, AND ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES. THE SAME WILL ENABLE MARINA TO BUILD COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DATABASE, WILL AID IN THE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS. UNDER THE SYSTEM APPLICANTS SHALL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY MARINA.

DIGITALIZATION WILL LIKEWISE LESSEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORRUPTION, REMOVING HUMAN INTERVENTION, ENSURING PROPER AND EFFICIENT SURVEY/AUDIT/INSPECTION BY USING "GEO-TAGGING" THAT WILL ENSURE THE LOCATION WHERE **INSPECTION / SURVEY IS CONDUCTED**. THE “DIGITALIZATION” WILL ALSO PAVE THE WAY FOR MARINA AND SHIP OWNERS/OPERATORS TO GENERATE SAVINGS THAT COULD BE UTILIZED IN OTHER PROJECTS.

IN THIS END, I HUMBLY APPEAL FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO THIS "HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECT," I AM LOOKING FORWARD FOR A STRONGER COLLABORATION WITH ALL OF YOU AS WE IMPLEMENT THE MIDP 2028 AND OTHER IMPORTANT MARITIME RELATED PROGRAMS, LET US WIN TOGETHER THROUGH THE ‘WHOLE-OF-NATION APPROACH’ TRANSITIONING TO “BAGONG PILIPINAS”.



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THANK YOU AND AGAIN, GOOD MORNING.