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**PH SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR SEMINAR CUM WORKSHOP SUCCESSFUL**

The national domestic ‘Shipbuilding and Ship Repair (SBSR) Roadmapping Seminar Cum Workshop’ hosted by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) held at the Sarrosa International Hotel and Residential Suites in Cebu City last Feb. 5 to 7, was successful, productive and informative, said participants who included MARINA central and regional officers, government and private sector resource speakers including those from the World Bank and Department of Trade and Industry.

The roadmapping seminar was conducted in line with proactive review policy of MARINA Administrator Dr. Maximo Q. Mejia Jr. PhD, for the development of domestic shipbuilding and repair, considering the strategic location of maritime Philippines in the region. Carrying the theme “Towards a Sustainable PH SBSR Industry”, participants engaged in healthy discussions and interesting interactions that put into green light the rights and responsibility of both the government and owners and operators of shipyards, and client shipping firms.

A total view of the three-day meet, showed it was as an effective venue for exchange of views among participating stakeholders, that led to the conduct of policy review and road mapping in shipbuilding and repair, and economics and environmental impact on shipping, and investment policy. The event turned out to be very interesting as enthusiastic stakeholders took turns in no-holds-barred discussion and interactions- perhaps a milestone in Philippine shipping, said MARINA Regional Director Nannette V. Dinopol (R-7), regional directors Emmanuel Carpio (Rs 10 and 13), Arnie Santiago (R-9), Atty. Manuel Portus (R-4) and Engr. Jaime Bea.(R-5).

Among the well-meaning event resource speakers were Engr. Ramon C. Hernandez, MARINA Shipyards Regulations Service (SRS) Director; Mr. Parth Shri Tewari, Head, Trade and Competitive Global Practice (TCGP), World Bank Group (WBG), Singapore; Roberto Martin N. Galang and Atty. Mel M. San Luis, TCGP WBG Manila; Engr. Sammuel T. Lim, SONAME; Rey Lignes, BOI; Mark Glenn Millan, Herma Shipyard;

Meneleo Carlos III and Roberto Quicio, PICMW; Engr. George Cottrell, Colorado Shipyard Corp., Ricardo Tuliao, RRT Marine Services, Engr. Glenn Dela Torre, Philippine Trigon Shipyard, Mr. Alvin Sandoval, Delsan Transport Lines and Lamberto Shianghio of Western Shipyard, among others.

Also active attendees were MARINA senior staff Richard Hora, the knowledgeable moderator; Mr. Kazuo Kotani, JICA expert on Ship Safety Policy and Maritime Modernization; MARINA regional directors Maristel Letigio (R-8), Mary Ann Armi Arcilla (R-6), Mark Anthony Pascua (Rs 1 and 2); Jose Venancio Vero, Jr. (R-12) and Liza Orongan (R-11), and directors Efren Borci (PPS), supervising SBS Edna De La Cruz, supervising SOS Ma. Teresa Mamisao, NAMED SRS Chief Daniel Reyes, SRLD SRS Chief Arsenio Lucas and MDM Chief Asuncion Amor.

Hernandez said MARINA data showed that in 2013, there were 113 active shipyards in the country. Seven were categorized as large shipyards, 12 medium and 94 small, strategically located across the country. In terms of physical facilities, 76 utilize slipways, five launching pads, six graving docks, four floating docks, one life dock, and 11 quay or piers. In terms of production capacity and capability for domestic use, most shipyards are capable of constructing ships below 500 GRT, however, some can build about 500 up to 2,500 GRT ships. In terms of human resources, MARINA data showed the SBSR industry employs around 45,000 workers nationwide. The Philippines is ranked No. 4 in the world book order in terms of capacity, after Japan, South Korea and China, he added.

The same Agency data also showed that in 2013, there were 367,168 Filipino seafarers deployed aboard oceangoing ships, recording a remittance of USD 5.2 billion. About 78,381 of them were officers, 128,806 ratings, while 125,815 were service providers.

Dinopol, on the other hand said that aside from being host to the world's biggest players in shipbuilding, like South Korea's Hanjin Heavy Industries Corp., Japan's Tsuneishi Holdings Corp. and Singapore's Keppel, the Philippines potentials to be next center of repair for oceangoing merchant and fishing vessels. This is due to the country's natural maritime location to the region's shipping routes, she added.

Deputy Administrator for Operations Atty. Gloria J. Victoria-Bañas in a message read by Dinopol, expressed optimism in the sharing of essential insights by industry experts and experienced resource speakers, was a big plus for participants in order to hasten their knowledge and information, through interactive procedures. It is important that they gain insights from the experiences of neighboring Asian countries on the growth of their SBSR industry, and must likewise acquire knowledge on the best practices on SBSR technology, environmental protection, including the shipping sector.

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On Feb. 7, which was a day before Dr. Mejia presided the MARINA Regional Director's Conference, also in Cebu City, participants were toured to Tsuneishi Heavy Industries Corp. (THIC) (Cebu) Shipyard in Balamban town. The THIC – Cebu is the 2014 MARINA 'Timonel' outstanding maritime entity awardee. At the vast area of THIC shipyard, the MARINA contingent and other participants were briefed of the company's profile, modern shipbuilding undertaking by THIC (Cebu) president Akihiko Mishima, vice president Karsuhiro Danjo, business dept gen. manager Jun-Ichiro Tanaka and factory general manager-director Masatoshi Date. They were assisted by THIC (Cebu) senior staff Arvin Rivera and Lady Fer Villaceran who were very hospitable and accommodating to the SBSR road mapping contingent

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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](http://marina.gov.ph).



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