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Overseas Shipping Service
Maritime Industry Authority

**MULTI-SECTORAL ADVISORY GROUP ON IMO CONCERNS (MAGIC)
ORIENTATION/WORKSHOP**



The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) conducted the Multi-Sectoral Advisory Group on IMO Concerns (MAGIC) Orientation/Workshop. The Orientation was held on 14 February 2018 at MIDAS Hotel in Pasay City. There were 65 attendees from the different government agencies and private stakeholders, namely: Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Office of the President (OP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Cebu Port Authority (CPA), Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), National Coast Watch Council (NCWC), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), Bureau of Customs (BOC), Commission of on Higher Education (CHED) Association of Marine Officers and Seamen's Union of the Philippines (AMOSUP), Philippine Association of Maritime Training Centers Inc. (PAMTCI), Masters and Mates Association of the Philippines (MMAP) Inc. and Philippine Sinter Corporation. Representatives from other service units in MARINA likewise attended.

Undersecretary for Maritime of the DOTr, Felipe A. Judan in his Opening Remarks emphasized that the Philippines, as a responsible member of the IMO, must be able to substantiate its unwavering commitment to the goals of IMO for safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans. He also stressed that the Philippines, being a major supplier of seafarers, is concerned not only on the education and training of seafarers but also the contribution of the seafarers while onboard to be able to give confidence to shipping companies.

Resource speakers from various agencies lend their expertise to the Orientation. Atty. Josephine Marie Uranza, IMO Regional Presence in East Asia; Capt Rolando Lazor N Punzalan, PCG, Deputy Chief of Coast Guard Staff for Plans, Programs and International Affairs, PCG; Dir. Rogelio E. Villanueva, Director, Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office, DFA; Ms. Blanca Piñero of the Documentation Section of the IMO (through video call); and Atty. Jean Ver P. Pia, PhD, Director, Overseas Shipping Service, MARINA.

Atty. Josephine Marie Uranza, IMO Regional Presence in East Asia, presented an overview of the work, structure and creation of the IMO as well as its mission and regulatory framework. She also discussed the three levels of ship safety of international conventions and the IMO's three pronged-approach on these Conventions.

Atty. Jean Ver P. Pia, PhD, Director, Overseas Shipping Service, MARINA, discussed the background of MAGIC, its composition as well as the MAGIC and Cluster meetings and Workshops conducted by the MARINA. She also presented the list of IMO meetings attended by the Philippines and the matrix of technical assistance requested by the Philippines to IMO. The efforts of the MARINA together with the DFA through the re-election of the Philippines to the IMO Council Category C were also discussed.

Capt Rolando Lazor N Punzalan, PCG, Deputy Chief of Coast Guard Staff for Plans, Programs and International Affairs, PCG, provided a presentation on how to use and access the IMODOCS documents and shared his experience as a Technical Adviser for Maritime Affairs in London. He also discussed a Concept for the Network of International Cooperation Desks (ICDs) while providing a guide for delegates who will attend the IMO meetings.

A break out session was conducted to fill in the matrix of focal agencies/points for each IMO meetings with indicative members from the government agencies and private sectors.

Dir. Rogelio E. Villanueva, Director, Maritime and Ocean Affairs Office, DFA, discussed the procedure on determining the possible attendees for each of the IMO meetings. He also provided administrative reminders for effective attendance in IMO Meetings.

An innovative feature of video conferencing was used during the MAGIC Orientation with Ms. Blanca Piñero of the Documentation Section of the IMO. A video presentation on how to use the IMO Documents and IMO Web Account were discussed.

As part of the Orientation, Atty. Pia provided updates on the efforts to ensure compliance with 2021 IMO Member States Audit Scheme (IMSAS) and the Succession Program of the Maritime Attaché Post in London. She also presented the Junior Professional Officer (JPO), Annual Accomplishment of the IMO Regional Presence in East Asia and the 70th Anniversary of the Adoption of the IMO Convention for the information of the attendees.

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