



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

04 April 2012

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TO : ALL RESORT/HOTEL OWNERS UTILIZING MOTORIZED BANCAS FOR THEIR TRANSFER SERVICES TO THEIR PATRONS

SUBJECT : REITERATION OF MARINA POLICY ON PROHIBITION OF USE OF UNREGISTERED OR COLORUM VESSELS OR MOTORIZED BANCAS FOR TOURISM, ISLAND HOPPING OR SIGHTSEEING PURPOSES

This Authority is cognizant of the fact that resorts/hotels in the country offer as one of their amenities/facilities the free transfer service to their patrons for tourism, island hopping and sightseeing purposes and in pursuance thereof, utilize motorized bancas or vessels. This Authority is likewise aware that there is a high demand for such service during the summer season.

In this regard, all resort/hotel owners are hereby advised to secure the necessary authority to operate and to register with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) the vessels and/or motorized bancas used for the hotel's and/or resort's transfer services. The use of unregistered and/or colorum vessels and/or motorized bancas is strictly prohibited. Further, the following safety measures are hereby reiterated and required to be observed by the resort/hotel owners, to wit:

1. The vessels and/or motorized bancas used for the hotel's and/or resort's transfer services must be equipped with life saving appliances such as life jackets, life rings, among others;
2. Said vessels and/or motorized bancas must likewise have communication equipment on board;
3. Said vessels and/or motorized bancas must also be covered by a Passenger Insurance Policy; and,
4. Said vessels and/or motorized bancas must be manned and operated by competent and qualified crew.

Those who shall fail to secure the necessary authority or permit shall be prohibited from operating and those who are found violating the same shall be sanctioned with a fine ranging from Ten Thousand Pesos (P10, 000.00) to One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100, 000.00) depending on the size of the vessel, pursuant to MARINA Memorandum Circular No. 120. In addition, the Seafarers' Identification Record Book (SIRB) of all the crew involved shall be confiscated without prejudice to any criminal prosecution.

On the other hand, all domestic and foreign tourists who wish to avail of the resort's and/or hotel's free transfer services are, for their own safety, advised to exercise vigilance by ensuring that all the above-stated safety protocols are observed and complied with by the resort/hotel owners and/or operators before boarding any vessel or banca. They are also encouraged to report to the MARINA and to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) any resort/hotel owner operating such vessels and/or motorized bancas for their free transfer services without the necessary authority and/or permit to so operate.

For guidance and strict compliance.


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