

# MARITIME PHILIPPINES | JANUARY - JUNE 2019

MARINA PRESS RELEASE





**Maritime Industry Authority**









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# MARINA opens 19 RORO Missionary Routes

5 February 2019

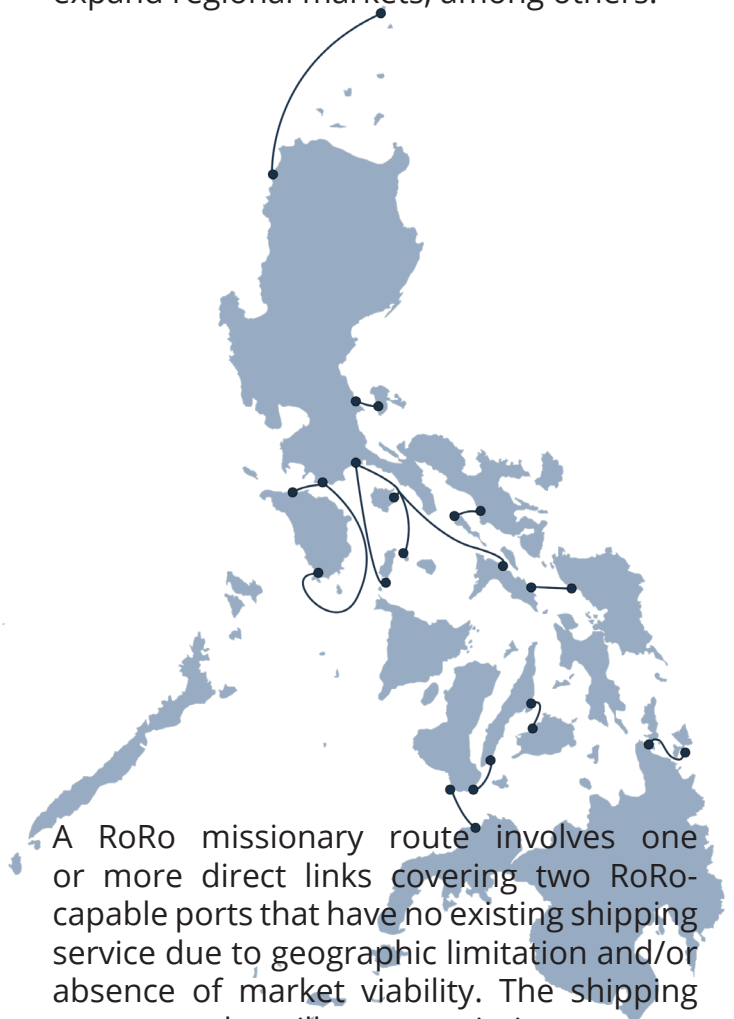
MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has opened 19 new Roll-on / Roll-off (RoRo) missionary routes to upgrade the domestic shipping industry in support of the nautical highway development – one of the eight priority programs of the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP).

These new RoRo missionary routes include the following:

- 1) Basco, Batanes – Currimao, Ilocos Norte
- 2) Batangas City – San Jose, Occidental Mindoro
- 3) San Juan, Batangas – Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro
- 4) Real, Quezon – Polillo Island, Quezon
- 5) Lucena, Quezon – Odiongan, Romblon
- 6) Lucena, Quezon – Buyabod, Marinduque
- 7) Lucena, Quezon – Romblon, Romblon
- 8) Lucena, Quezon – Masbate City
- 9) Maasin, Southern Leyte – Ubay, Bohol
- 10) San Narciso, Quezon – San Pascual, Masbate
- 11) Pantao, Albay – San Pascual, Masbate
- 12) Calbayog City, Samar – Cataingan, Masbate
- 13) Taytay, Palawan – Cuyo, Palawan
- 14) Cuyo, Palawan – San Jose de Buenavista, Antique
- 15) Oslob, Cebu – Dumaguete, Negros Oriental
- 16) Punta Engano, Mactan Island, Cebu – Jetafe, Bohol
- 17) Poro, Camotes, Cebu – Isabel, Leyte
- 18) Lipata, Surigao del Norte – Dapa, Surigao del Norte
- 19) Siaton, Negros Oriental – Dipolog City

The MARINA encourages shipping companies to operate in any of the newly-opened RoRo missionary routes in support

of the enhancement of the country's Road RoRo Terminal System (RRTS), a seamless stretch of roads and ports to improve inter-island transportation, enhance tourism, and expand regional markets, among others.



A RoRo missionary route involves one or more direct links covering two RoRo-capable ports that have no existing shipping service due to geographic limitation and/or absence of market viability. The shipping company who will serve a missionary route may enjoy protection of investment for five years and 50% discount on the regular fees of all applications and renewal of ship documents, licenses, certificates, and permits.

Aside from serving new RoRo missionary routes, shipping companies are also encouraged to propose new links with RoRo-capable ports for the further development of the Philippine domestic shipping industry.



# MARINA to open 8 industry-proposed RoRo routes

7 March 2019

HILONGOS, LEYTE – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) will open eight (8) RoRo missionary routes proposed by shipping operators in support of the Road Roll-on / Roll-off Terminal System (RRTS) and the priority program relating to the upgrading of the domestic shipping in support of the nautical highway development under the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP).

At the latest Oversight Meeting of the House Committee on Transportation chaired by House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, MARINA OIC Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr presented the eight (8) industry-proposed RoRo missionary routes, in addition to the 19 newly-opened RoRo missionary routes in January 2019.



House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo commended the MARINA of its effort to promote greater connectivity and economic interactions of the various islands of the archipelago.

The eight (8) industry-proposed RoRo missionary routes were the following:

1. Daanbantayan, Cebu to Calbayog City, Samar
2. Tabuelan, Cebu to Ajuy, Iloilo
3. Laoay, Bohol to Cagayan de Oro
4. San Juan, Batangas to Calapan, Oriental Mindoro
5. Iloilo City to Cuyo, Palawan
6. San Pascual, Burias Island, Masbate to Pasacao, Camarines Sur
7. San Andres, Quezon to Pasacao, Camarines Sur
8. Lucena, Quezon to San Fernando, Masbate

The MARINA will issue a letter approval that will give a proponent shipping operator four (4) months to start vessel operation on its proposed route, while processing the acquisition of its Certificates of Public Convenience (CPCs).

Upon granting of the CPC, the proponent shipping operator shall enjoy a five-year route protection or protection of investment, as well as 50% discount on the processing on the regular fees of all applications and renewal of ship documents, licenses, certificates, and permits.

In February 2019, seven (7) of the 19 newly-opened RoRo missionary routes were already applied for by shipping operators, signifying their interest to serve the unserved routes within the Philippine nautical highway.

The other 12 RoRo missionary routes that have been opened for prospective shipping operators include the following:

1. Basco, Batanes – Currimao, Ilocos Norte
2. San Juan, Batangas – Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro
3. Real, Quezon – Polillo Island, Quezon
4. Lucena, Quezon – Buyabod, Marinduque
5. Pantao, Albay – San Pascual, Masbate
6. Calbayog City, Samar – Cataingan, Masbate
7. Cuyo, Palawan – San Jose de Buenavista, Antique
8. Oslob, Cebu – Dumaguete, Negros Oriental
9. Punta Engano, Mactan Island, Cebu – Jetafe, Bohol
10. Poro, Camotes, Cebu – Isabel, Leyte
11. Lipata, Surigao del Norte – Dapa, Surigao del Norte
12. Siaton, Negros Oriental – Dipolog City

Shipping companies are further encouraged to propose new missionary routes in addition to the existing list that can be developed.



*Captured during RoRo Terminal System Assessment*



*Cebu Port*



*Lipata Port*



# MARINA reports 7 RORO Missionary Routes to be Served

19 February 2019



## *Batangas Port*

CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) reported that several shipping operators have already signified their interest to serve 7 out of the 19 Roll-on / Roll-off (RoRo) missionary routes during the House Committee on Transportation's Oversight Committee Hearing on the RoRo System held in Cebu City on Monday, 18 February 2019.

These routes include the following:

1. Batangas City – San Jose, Occidental Mindoro – Coron, Palawan
2. Lucena, Quezon – Odiongan, Romblon – Caticlan/New Washington
3. Lucena, Quezon – Romblon, Romblon
4. Lucena, Quezon – Masbate City-Calbayog, Northern Samar
5. Maasin, Southern Leyte – Ubay, Bohol
6. San Andres, Quezon – San Pascual, Masbate- Pasacai, Masbate
7. Taytay, Palawan – Cuyo, Palawan

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr encouraged shipping companies to consider deploying their ships to the other 12 RoRo missionary routes to further enhance the connectivity of the Philippine islands, a direct complement to Program 1 of the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) which is to upgrade the domestic shipping in support of the Nautical Highway Development.

The other 12 RoRo missionary routes opened for prospective shipping operators include the following:

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3. Real, Quezon – Polillo Island, Quezon
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8. Punta Engano, Mactan Island, Cebu – Jetafe, Bohol
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11. Siaton, Negros Oriental – Dipolog City
12. Lucena, Quezon – Buyabod, Marinduque

Furthermore, the MARINA informed the Oversight Committee on the RoRo System that all RoRo routes covering the three nautical highways, Eastern Nautical Highway, Central Nautical Highway, and the Western Nautical Highway, have now been fully served.

The MARINA declared 19 missionary routes on 31 January 2019 to further connect various islands between the Central Nautical Highway to the Eastern Nautical Highway or from the Western Nautical Highway to the Central Nautical Highway. These missionary routes are part of the remaining 109 lateral routes that need to be served, considering the availability of RoRo-capable ports.

Shipping companies are also encouraged to propose new missionary routes in addition to the above list that can be developed.

The shipping company that will serve a missionary route shall enjoy protection of investment for five years and 50 percent discount on the regular fees of all applications and renewal of ship documents, licenses, certificates, and permits.

House Speaker Gloria Macapagal Arroyo lauded the MARINA for its swift action to hasten the declaration of missionary routes for the promotion of the Strong Republic Nautical Highway System (SRNHS).



Masbate Port



# DOTr-MARINA launches awareness campaign on rights of sea passengers

12 April 2019

BATANGAS CITY – In preparation for the upcoming Lenten season, the Department of Transportation (DOTr), through the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), formally launched the awareness campaign on the rights of sea passengers in cases of cancelled, delayed, and uncompleted voyages, at the Batangas Port in Batangas City yesterday, 11 April 2019.

The campaign aims to inform the public of their rights, as well as the obligations of shipping operators in cases of trips at sea that cause inconvenience to passengers. The MARINA established these rights to intensify and ensure their protection against inefficient shipping services for the promotion of public welfare and safety. Together with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), the MARINA assures the public of its full enforcement.

DOTr Secretary Arthur Tugade lauded the efforts of MARINA, in cooperation with the PCG and PPA, in disseminating timely and proper information to the public regarding their rights when traveling by sea.

“Sea travel remains a popular mode of transportation for many Filipinos lalo na ‘ho ngayong Semana Santa. Mahalaga na alam ng mga kababayan natin ang kanilang mga karapatan dahil hangad nating mabigyan ng ligtas, maayos at maginhawang biyahe ang mga Pilipino. Salamat sa inisyatibong ito ng MARINA para sa publiko,” Secretary Tugade said.

“The DOTr is all-set for the Lenten season. Our Malasakit Help Desks stationed on major transportation hubs across the country offer public assistance and heightened security measures needed for the full implementation of the ‘Oplan Biyaheng Ayos: Semana Santa 2019,’” DOTr Undersecretary for Maritime Fernando Juan Perez added.

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr. likewise stressed the need to put public welfare front and center, especially during holiday seasons when passenger volume significantly increases.



**“As the nation prepares for its celebration of the Lenten season and for the peak of summer season, MARINA hopes that this regulation provides assurance that the government cares for the general welfare of our sea passengers,” Vice Admiral Vingson stated.**

Apart from the PCG and PPA, the launching of the awareness campaign on the rights of sea passengers was made possible with the active cooperation of the Office of the President (OP), Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), and the Philippine National Police (PNP).



DOTr Undersecretary for Maritime  
Fernando Juan Perez



COMMO Artemio M Abu, PCG



Jay Daniel R. Santiago General Manager, PPA



Batangas Port



# Rights of Sea Passengers

Under the campaign, the MARINA emphasizes that sea passengers of a cancelled or delayed voyage have the right to information, as well as the right to refund or right to revalidation of their tickets.

If the sea passengers choose to revalidate their tickets, they may also avail of the right to amenities such as snacks or meals and free accommodation if deemed necessary, while waiting for their rescheduled trip.

The MARINA also clarifies that the right to compensation of sea passengers for a cancelled or delayed voyage applies only if the free accommodation is not practicable for the shipping operator.

Meanwhile, sea passengers of an uncompleted voyage have the right to information, right to amenities, right to compensation, as well as the right to be transported to their destination.

The MARINA notes that the rights of sea passengers are absolutely applicable only if the causes of cancelled, delayed, or uncompleted voyage are attributable to the shipping operator.

The public is encouraged to read the MARINA Circular 2018-07 for the terms and conditions of the rights of sea passengers that may be accessed at the official MARINA website ([marina.gov.ph](http://marina.gov.ph)).

Passengers are also encouraged to report non-compliance of shipping operators by filing a complaint through these contact details: 0995 400 7336 or +632 521 804



*Batangas Port*



*Cebu Port*



*Masbate Terminal*

# MARINA to shipping operators: Uphold passengers' rights at all times

5 March 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To intensify and ensure the protection of the public against inefficient shipping services, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) reminds shipping operators to uphold passengers' rights at all times, especially in cases of cancelled, delayed, or uncompleted voyages.

The MARINA clearly established the rights of passengers in cases of cancelled, delayed, or uncompleted voyages through MARINA Circular No. 2018-07 addressed to all owners and operators of inter-island passenger liner ships.



*Balingoan Port*

In the MARINA Circular, the agency emphasized that all passengers of a cancelled or delayed trip have the right to information, right to refund or revalidation of ticket, right to amenities, and right to compensation.

Trips are considered cancelled if it has been called off to more than 24 hours from the scheduled departure or to an indefinite date and time. This also covers trips where passengers have been denied boarding due to overbooking or errors in booking.

If the voyage involved late departure from the point of origin resulting to late arrival in the port of destination not exceeding 24 hours from the scheduled departure or arrival of the ship, it is considered delayed.

Moreover, the passengers of an uncompleted voyage or any trip that commenced but failed to reach its port of destination have the right to information, right to comparable transport to intended destination or to a place nearest thereto, right to amenities, and right to compensation.

However, the MARINA noted that these rights are absolutely applicable to passengers only if the cancelled, delayed, or uncompleted voyage is caused by the shipping operator. These are not applicable if the unfortunate event is caused by the passengers themselves.



*Masbate Port*



Also, some rights have relative application. The right to amenities and the right to compensation apply only if the cancellation, delay, or non-completion of the voyage is attributable to the operator. These do not apply if it is of passenger's fault or there were extraordinary circumstances that occurred such as port traffic / congestion or receipt of orders from competent authorities. It will also not apply if the cause is a fortuitous event like a natural calamity or any incident involving government intervention.

Furthermore, the right to refund or revalidation of ticket applies for both cancelled and delayed voyages regardless of the cause, including extraordinary circumstance or fortuitous event. The only exception is if it is of passenger's fault. Finally, the right to comparable transport only applies to cases of uncompleted voyages, even if the event is caused by a fortuitous event.

The passengers are encouraged to refer to the whole text of the MARINA Circular 2018-07 for complete details on these rights and on the circumstances entitling them to exercise or avail of such rights. It may be accessed via this link: <https://marina.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/MC-2018-07.pdf>

The public is further encouraged to report non-compliance to MARINA Circular 2018-007 by filing a complaint to the nearest MARINA office for appropriate action.

If found guilty of non-compliance, the shipping operator will be fined P 100,000 for each voyage for the first offense; P 200,000 for each voyage and a five-day suspension of operations for the second offense; and P 300,000 for each voyage and a ten-day suspension of operations for the third offense.

Initial complaints may be sent to the MARINA's Enforcement Service (ES) via mobile number: 0995-400-7336 or email address: [es@marina.gov.ph](mailto:es@marina.gov.ph)



Cauayan Port





## **MARINA strengthens Philippine Ship Registry; upholds commitment to IMO**

*20 January 2019*

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) strengthens the Philippine Ship Registry through the implementation of the 10-year Maritime Industry Plan (MIDP), regular joint collaboration with the private stakeholders, and by being a responsible member of the international maritime community.

Being the country's agency responsible in promoting and developing the Philippine maritime industry, the MARINA, through its 10-year MIDP, has targeted to address the key concerns in the country's maritime sector through its integrated and holistic long term programs. One of its eight (8) priority programs is the establishment of maritime industrial hub which is intended to promote the country's flag registry.

The MARINA also organizes workshops, consultations and conferences with private stakeholders to discuss and resolve prevalent challenges in the Philippine Ship Registry. One of which is the regular bi-annual meeting that is conducted to assess the overseas shipping sector's overall situation, propose changes in the legal framework and/or revisions to national laws and circulars, among others.

These efforts led to the approval of House Bill (HB) 1286 entitled: an Act providing for the full and effective implementation and enforcement of international maritime instruments of which Philippines is a State party and HB 1288 entitled: An Act providing for the registration of ships and incentives therefor and other purposes.





These proposed laws aim to strengthen the Philippine Ship Registry, as well as the implementation of rules and regulations for maritime safety and security, and the protection of the marine environment.

As a responsible member of the international maritime community, the Philippines continues to prepare for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) scheduled in 2021. The MARINA has successfully conducted a mock audit and shortly thereafter, worked on the areas for improvements raised during the activity.

In 2018, the Philippines has ratified six (6) IMO conventions: 1) Protocol of 1997 to Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 Relating thereto (MARPOL Annex VI); 2) Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (SOLAS PROT 1978); 3) Protocol of 1988 Relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 (Load Line

Finally, the MARINA has also asserted its commitment to uphold its position to the IMO Council under Category C for 2020-2021 Biennium to prove its unwavering commitment in ensuring the full and complete compliance to IMO conventions. Countries elected under Category C have special interests in maritime transport and/or navigation.

The Philippines has been part of the IMO Council since 1997. Since then, the country has been an active contributor in drafting international rules and regulations for the development of the global maritime industry, especially in the field of maritime transport and/or navigation.

# MARINA eyes first-ever maritime hub

25 January 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) encourages businessmen to invest in the establishment of the first-ever maritime industrial hub under the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP).

The establishment of the maritime industrial hub from 2019 to 2028 aims to develop an attractive Philippine Ship Registry; a world-class bunkering facility and major ports development for regional transshipment in Southeast Asia; globally competitive shipyards for shipbuilding, ship repair, and ship recycling; an eco-industrial maritime park for clustering and consolidation of all maritime-related services, and; a maritime training and research center to meet manpower requirements locally and internationally, as well as technology-based and policy-related studies.



With this program, the MARINA expects to transform the Philippines as a “go-to-location” for international shipbuilding and ship repair and a central point for accumulation and distribution of cargoes for worldwide trade.

It also aims to sustain the premier position of the Philippines as the source of globally competitive maritime professionals. Moreover, the establishment of the maritime industrial hub supports not only the modernization of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities, but also the reintegration

of Filipino seafarers to work as marine surveyors, technical superintendents, and managers of ancillary industries.

The MARINA likewise views recent developments at the Hanjin Heavy Industries and Construction – Philippines (HHIC-Phil) as a new challenge for the country’s maritime industry, noting that it is one among the major shipyards that catapulted the Philippines to become the 5th largest shipbuilding country in the world on top of its revenue contribution due to the government and the provision of employment opportunities to thousands of Filipino shipyard workers.

The state-of-the art facilities of HHIC-Phil may be considered as an option for the establishment of an eco-industrial maritime park for the clustering and consolidation of all maritime-related services, thereby accelerating the implementation of the program.

In support of this program, the MARINA has streamlined its business processes and rationalized its policies relating to the registration and licensing of shipyards as its initial steps towards enticing investors to pour in their capital in shipbuilding.

The MARINA has also partnered with various government agencies to accelerate the processing of documents for the establishment of shipyards and other ancillary services including arrangements with financial institutions for possible funding of their needed capital.

Prospective and interested investors are invited to visit the MARINA for more information about its program on the establishment of a maritime hub in strategic locations in the country.



# MARINA to enhance maritime industry investment climate

3 March 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) will enhance the investment climate in the domestic shipping, as well as in the shipbuilding and ship repair industries to further encourage private sector participation the maritime industry.

In a forum on the results of the assessment on the implementation of the Republic Act (RA) 9295 or the Domestic Shipping Development Act of 2004, MARINA revealed that there is a need to increase awareness among stakeholders about the provisions of RA 9295. One of which is the granting of incentives as it was noted that from 2014 to 2017, only 103 of the 2,148 imported ships from were granted with Value Added Tax (VAT) exemptions.

Hence, the MARINA has committed to formulate an attractive financing scheme and to review existing incentive programs for the players in the domestic shipping and shipbuilding industries. The agency will also review regulations to accelerate fleet modernization programs, as well as modernize naval ships and maritime security assets. The enhancement of shipbuilding research and development, modernization of shipyard facilities, and provision of regular training for shipyard personnel will also be prioritized.

On a positive note, the MARINA assessment revealed that the deregulation of the domestic shipping industry has promoted the ease of doing business through the reduction in the processes, processing time of applications, and flexibility in fleet operation. This resulted to a steady increase in the issuance of the Certificate of Public Convenience (CPCs) since 2010, allowing more shipping operators to take part in the enhancement of the navigability within Philippine borders by serving existing routes, as well as new routes.

The MARINA believes that through the availability of needed materials locally, the installment of modern shipbuilding and ship repair facilities, and the improvement of the quality management system, Philippine shipyards may increase its capability to construct an average of 500 gross tonnages (GT) to 2500 GT of tankers or roll-on / roll-off (RoRo) passenger ships for the domestic market.

Finally, in support of the ten-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), the MARINA is set to implement a vessel retirement program for all ships that failed to meet the minimum classification standards of a government-recognized classification society to uphold maritime safety and environmental protection.

The MARINA has successfully conducted the forum on the results of the assessment of RA 9295 in collaboration with the International Finance Corporation – World Bank (IFC – WB).

# MARINA supports unveiling of first locally-made RORO ship classed by PRS

9 June 2019



NAVOTAS CITY – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has supported the unveiling of the first Filipino-constructed roll-on / roll-off (RoRo) passenger ship classed by the Philippine Register of Shipping (PRS), the M/V Isla Simara, built by Josefa Slipways Incorporated and Shogun Ships Corporation.

The M/V Isla Simara is a 468-seater RoRo passenger ship with a ramp of 12 meters – the longest in the Philippines. It has an overall length of 72 meters, breadth of 16 meters, and 16 rally cargoes. Moreover, it is equipped with a marine evacuation system designed to evacuate the maximum number of persons safely with the least amount of time, with built-in life-saving apparatuses.

The M/V Isla Simara is expected to take her first journey in July 2019.

Department of Transportation (DOTr) Undersecretary for Maritime Juan Fernando Perez, together with MARINA – Shipyards Regulation Service (SRS) Director Engr. Ramon Hernandez and MARINA – Enforcement Service (ES) OIC – Director Capt. Rommel Mendoza, recognized the Josefa Slipways Incorporated and Shogun Ships Corporation for their active collaboration with the government to promote safe and high-quality locally-constructed vessels, as envisioned in the 10-year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP).

Finally, MARINA urges local shipbuilders and ship operators to continue in improving the quality of locally-constructed vessels, for the enhancement of the Philippine maritime industry.

# MARINA promotes quality management on shipbuilding, ship repair industry

12 April 2019

GENERAL SANTOS CITY – The Maritime Industry Authority, through the Shipyards Regulation Service (SRS), continues to advocate equal opportunities for both men and women in the shipbuilding and ship repair (SBSR) industry through a gender sensitivity workshop with SBSR stakeholders in Mindanao.

The MARINA believes that the active participation of every Filipino will lead to the fulfillment of the Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) and part of it is employing more people in the maritime industry, regardless of gender.

Ms. Marichu Magpantay-Buergo, a Gender and Development (GAD) specialist, discussed the social construction of gender, concepts and tools for gender analysis, as well as gender-based inequalities in the society.

Buergo debunked the myth that men are stronger compared to women. She emphasized that no scientific study has proven the claim, clarifying that women may actually be stronger than men for their capability to carry an unborn child inside their bodies for nine months. She also highlighted that men and women only differed on their physiological aspect and biological make-up.

Finally, Buergo encouraged the participants to share their gained knowledge on gender sensitivity with their colleagues to further strengthen cooperation and oneness at the workplace.

To conclude, the MARINA reminded the participants that a more inclusive and less discriminatory environment is instrumental in engaging more individuals in the maritime industry.



"This gender sensitivity workshop is not intended to devalue men by empowering women, but an opportunity to learn how to respect each and every individual," MARINA-SRS Director Engr. Ramon Hernandez said.





# MARINA, DTI to develop standards for shipbuilding, ship repair sector

25 April 2019



MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has partnered with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to develop the Philippine National Standards (PNS) for the shipbuilding and ship repair (SBSR) sector.

The MARINA-DTI joint technical committee will formulate the PNS for the SBSR sector to ensure the quality and competitiveness of Philippine-SBSR services through sustainable business processes as envisioned in the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), specifically under priority program #5 or the establishment of a global maritime hub.

Currently, Philippine shipyards are required to acquire certifications from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the commitment to do environment-friendly practices; the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) for the safety workplace against fire accidents; and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) for the welfare of the workers.

With the PNS, the shipyards will also be required to meet the minimum international standards to ensure the quality and safety of Philippine-made vessels.

The DTI fully supports the MARINA on its efforts to modernize the SBSR industry, noting that it will help alleviate poverty, attract foreign investments, and achieve the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022.

On 08 May 2019, the MARINA will conduct a consultation with SBSR stakeholders in Mindanao to discuss the development of the PNS, specifically on ship design.

Aside from the DTI, the development of the PNS for the SBSR sector is also supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), and several private partners.



## MARINA, DOE to promote green shipping industry

30 April 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To strengthen inter-agency collaboration for the enhancement of the country's maritime industry, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), in collaboration with the Maritime League, hosted the 144th maritime forum in Manila today, 26 April 2019.

MARINA OIC – Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr welcomed the government and private sector partners of the Maritime League and reiterated the MARINA's support to the non-profit maritime foundation through information sharing, cooperation, and unity.

"I look forward to more harmonious efforts such as this forum in advancing the maritime interest of the Philippines towards becoming a strong maritime nation," Vice Admiral Vingson said.

The MARINA presented the latest initiatives to promote the welfare of the seafarers, including the implementation of the Executive Order No. 63, the MARINA Integrated System Management Online (MISMO), as well as the revised policies, standards, and guidelines (PSG) on the

conduct of the Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT) and the Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE).

The MARINA also discussed updates on the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), including the activities conducted during the first quarter of 2019 which were aligned to the objectives of the MIDP's eight priority programs.

Several initiatives highlighted included the newly-opened Roll-on / Roll-off routes for the improvement of the country's Road RoRo Terminal System (RRTS), awareness campaigns on maritime tourism, progress on the establishment of the first-ever Coastal and Inland Waterways Transport System (CIWTS) as a response to land-based traffic condition, collaborative meetings with public and private stakeholders on the realization of the Philippine's global maritime hub, as well as the rules and regulations on maritime safety and maritime security.

Since 1990, the Maritime League advances the interest of the country's maritime sector and promotes maritime safety and industry development through various communication efforts such as the regular conduct of the maritime forum.



# MARINA advocates gender equality in the shipbuilding, ship repair industry

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Finally, Buergo encouraged the participants to share their gained knowledge on gender sensitivity with their colleagues to further strengthen cooperation and oneness at the workplace.



To conclude, the MARINA reminded the participants that a more inclusive and less discriminatory environment is instrumental in engaging more individuals in the maritime industry.

“This gender sensitivity workshop is not intended to devalue men by empowering women, but an opportunity to learn how to respect each and every individual,” MARINA-SRS Director Engr. Ramon Hernandez said.



# MARINA OIC conducts random inspection of RoRo vessel in Batangas and Calapan Ports

15 April 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES—The Officer-In-Charge of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has inspected at random a Batangas and Calapan Roll-on / Roll-off (RoRo) vessel at the Batangas Port to strengthen maritime safety measures and look for areas to further upgrade the domestic shipping industry in the Philippines, as part of its eight priority programs under the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP) of MARINA.

MARINA OIC Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr, together with Deputy Administrator for Operations Engr. Nanette Villamor-Dinopol; Capt. Rommel John Mendoza of the MARINA – Enforcement Service (ES); and Atty. Sharon Aledo of the MARINA Region IV, rode a RoRo vessel from Batangas City bound to Calapan, Oriental Mindoro to assess the maritime operations in these areas at the onset of the Lenten Season.



Vice Admiral Vingson and his team inspected the basic condition of the passengers and observed compliances to cargo securing procedures of vehicles and trucks.

The MARINA OIC noted that the inspected RoRo vessel was generally clean with its engine room and emergency generator to be well-maintained and ventilated. Significantly, its sewage tank area was found safely secured and located in a separate compartment aboard ship that was also free from foul odor.

Persons with Disabilities (PWD) elevator was also installed and accessible in the RoRo vessel, while the comfort rooms were well-managed and sanitized.

However, there was a minor deficiency noted by the MARINA, wherein two drivers were seen inside their vehicles while the vessel was underway. Nonetheless, the deficiency was immediately rectified by the vessel's crew, and requested the drivers to vacate their vehicles and stay at the passengers area for their safety.

"Maritime safety is non-negotiable. The MARINA is consistently working with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the PPA to ensure that our sea passengers enjoy a safe, comfortable, and convenient travel at all times," Vice Admiral Vingson said. Finally, the MARINA is calling all shipping operators across the country to uphold all the fundamental elements of the maritime safety. The public, meanwhile, is encouraged to report violations by filing a complaint through these contact details: 0995 400 7336 or +632 521 804.

# MARINA to issue show cause orders to 2 ships in collision

15 January 2019

CEBU, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) will issue show cause orders (SCOs) to MV Eastern Endeavour and LCT Poseidon 29 that have been involved in a collision abeam Shell Island, Mactan, Cebu on Saturday evening, 12 January 2019.

MV Eastern Endeavour is a 6,269 gross tonnage (GT) general cargo vessel operating the overseas trade under Eastern Shipping Services, Inc. based in Manila, while LCT Poseidon 29 is a 965 GT cargo vessel operating at the domestic trade under Concrete Solutions, Inc. based in Tacloban City.

Initial reports revealed that the Vessel Traffic Management System (VTMS) in Cebu radioed the inbound vessel MV Eastern Endeavour while it was transiting along the Cebu-Mactan Channel abeam Shell Island, informing its crew that an outbound vessel LCT Poseidon 29 was transiting southbound.

On this condition, the MV Eastern Endeavour has requested a port-to-port passage with LCT Poseidon 29, advising the latter to maneuver and stay on hard port rudder to increase its Closest Point of Approach (CPA). But due to the close proximity between the involved vessels, a collision occurred.

Despite the incident, all crew members were reported to be injured-free. At around 9:42 pm of the same day, the MV Eastern Endeavour has safely berthed at the Cebu International Port, while LCT Poseidon 29 was anchored at the Talisay Anchorage area.

To date, the MARINA is closely coordinating with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and the Cebu Port Authority (CPA) to improve the operation of Cebu's VTMS to avoid the occurrence of similar maritime accidents in the future.



Source: Marine Traffic



# MARINA Holds 1st IMSAS Council Meeting

21 June 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – In preparation for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) in 2021, the first IMSAS Inter-agency Council meeting has convened at the MARINA Central Office to consider the preparatory activities undertaken by the agencies performing maritime administration functions.

Through Department Order No. 2018-006, the IMSAS Inter-agency Council which is composed of representatives from the DOTr, MARINA, Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) is created to ensure that the Philippines meets its obligations and responsibilities as an IMO Member State.

In the first IMSAS Inter-agency Council meeting, Department of Transportation (DOTr) OIC – Undersecretary for Maritime Fernando Juan C. Perez spearheaded the discussions on the draft Philippine IMO Strategy and Cross Table of Responsibilities. The draft Philippine IMO Strategy contained the measures that the Philippines will adopt to fully and effectively implement and enforce the mandatory IMO Instruments which it has ratified including the Safety of Life at Seas (SOLAS), International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), Convention on International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS), International Convention on Load Lines, and International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships and the International Convention for the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for seafarers. It also

highlighted the key performance indicators (KPIs), timeline, office, and budget to ensure that it has given full and complete effect to the international maritime instruments.

Furthermore, the Council exchanged views on the Cross Table of Responsibilities, specifically on the delineation of the roles and responsibilities of the Philippine maritime administration under the mandatory IMO instruments.



Meanwhile, the Council also discussed the draft department order on the designation of a single point of contact for IMSAS 2021 and the creation of an IMSAS support and implementation unit as action plans after the IMSAS mock audit conducted in 2018. Finally, MARINA OIC-Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr emphasized the importance of complying with international obligations and responsibilities of the Philippines as a State Party, specifically in boosting the confidence of the Philippines as a maritime nation to trade with other countries.

# MARINA hosts PHILMARINE 2019; signs MOU on maritime industry

20 June 2019



PASAY CITY – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has successfully hosted the PHILMARINE 2019: Continuous Quality and Productivity Improvement in the Shipbuilding and Ship Repair (SBSR) Sector on 18-20 June 2019.

Hundreds of private companies and government entities from the maritime, shipbuilding, offshore, oil and gas, naval defense, and their supporting industries participated in the three-day affair.

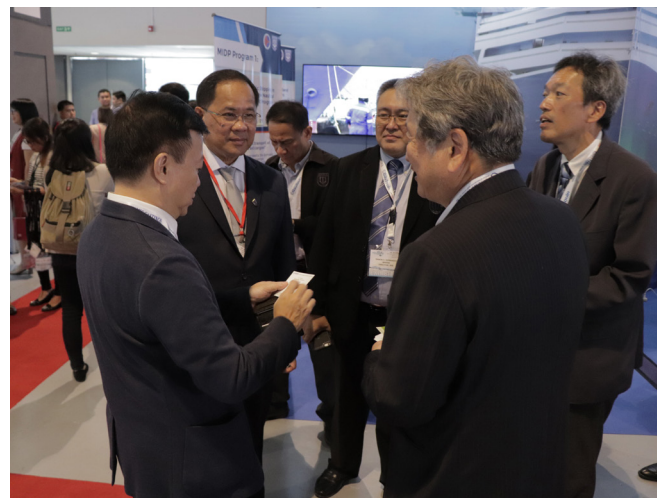
In the exhibit, private stakeholders showcased their innovative products and services. Government partners, on the other hand, exhibited defense equipment and the model ship of the hybrid trimaran project – an eco-friendly vessel that operates on wave energy, instead of fuel, among other significant presentations.

In the technical conference, MARINA – Shipyards Regulation Service (MARINA-SRS) provided updates on the Philippine shipbuilding and ship repair sector, emphasizing the establishment of a global maritime hub or the MIDP's priority program #5 that aims to transform the country into a one-stop destination for all maritime concerns, including bunkering and transshipment.

PH – JAPAN signs MOU on maritime industry  
A major highlight of the PHILMARINE 2019 was the signing of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the MARINA, through OIC – Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr, and the Japan Ship Equipment and Machinery Association (JSMEA), through Chairman Shonzo Yamada.



MARINA and JSMEA have committed to exchange information on shipping market and current technological developments in the maritime industry such as maritime trade, shipbuilding, and ship equipment in Philippines and Japan; as well as to conduct dialogues and capacity building in shipping trends among member companies of both parties through regular visits. Above all, the MOU will help establish a concrete ancillary industry for local shipping and shipbuilding in the Philippines.







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# Philippines asserts position in IMO White List

15 April 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Philippines, through the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), asserted its position in the revised “White List” of Parties to the STCW Convention prepared by the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), through an intervention during the 6th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping (HTW6) held at the IMO Headquarters in London, United Kingdom from 29 April to 03 May 2019.

During the Sub-Committee’s session on 30 April, the Philippine delegation, together with delegations from other Parties of the STCW Convention, raised issues and questions to the Sub-committee and the IMO Secretariat regarding the sudden review and reparation of a draft revised White List, the procedures of the said review, and the criteria for issuance of a revised list.

According to Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr., no white list has been officially issued by the IMO excluding

“First, I would like to clarify that the IMO has not issued a “White List” which does not include the Philippines. Nonetheless, it was agreed upon in one of the sessions that a TWG be established to work on all issues raised,” Vice Admiral Vingson said.

“The positive developments were attained due to the effort, commitment and support of the entire team,” Vingson added.

For his part, Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade welcomed the recent development, and challenged the MARINA to exert all the necessary efforts to prepare for the independent evaluation, which is part of the Philippines’ compliance as a Party to the STCW Convention.

In fact, before the delegation left for London, Secretary Tugade has directed the MARINA to ensure the country’s compliance with IMO standards to firmly secure the livelihood of thousands of Filipino seafarers.

“This is good news for our maritime industry and the entire country. May this be treated as a challenge so that the MARINA and other concerned agencies perform at their best to prepare accordingly for the Independent Evaluation. We need to make sure that we will exert all the necessary efforts, commitment and support to make this next mission successful,” Secretary Tugade said.

“Trabaho at kinabukasan ng libu-libong marino at kani-kanilang mga pamilya ang nakasalalay dito. Sa katunayan, buong Pilipinas ang umaasa sa atin. Kailangang siguraduhin natin na hindi sila mabibigo,” Tugade added.

In response, VAdm Vingson reaffirmed MARINA’s unwavering commitment to do its utmost to maintain the country’s status in the IMO White List.

“We accept the challenge of the Secretary. Rest assured that the MARINA remains fully committed to steadily sustain the Philippines’ full compliance with the STCW Convention. We will continue to do everything we can to maintain our status in the IMO White List,” the MARINA OIC Administrator said.

“All necessary steps to consistently improve the country’s maritime education, training, examination, and assessment system are being undertaken and prioritized,” Vingson added.

The so-called “White List” refers to a list of parties confirmed by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) to have communicated information that demonstrates full and complete effect to the relevant provisions of the STCW.

Earlier this year, there have been false reports stating the Philippines’ alleged exclusion from the IMO White List, which unfortunately generated undue panic to over 400,000 seafarers and their families.

The Philippine delegation to the HTW6 that delivered the intervention was headed by MARINA OIC Administrator Narciso Vingson Jr., together with other MARINA representatives from the STCW Office, Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Association of Maritime Training Centers, Inc. (PAMTCI), and the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP).

# PHL remains in IMO White List

21 March 2019

Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga — The Philippines remains in full compliance with the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention), 1978, as amended, of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as signified by the country's continued inclusion in the "IMO White List."

The so-called "White List" refers to a list of parties confirmed by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) to have communicated information that demonstrates the full and complete effect that is given to the relevant provisions of the STCW.

The incontrovertible proof of this compliance is the MSC Circular (MSC.1/Circ.1163/Rev.11) published on 14 December 2018, which categorically includes the Philippines in the list of STCW-compliant parties. In this regard, the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) maintain that reports on the Philippines' alleged exclusion from the IMO White List are without factual and sufficient basis.

We caution the public against efforts to generate undue panic to the country's over 400,000 seafarers and their families.

Even as the Philippines' inclusion in the White List is confirmed, the DOTr-MARINA continues to assure all stakeholders that it is exerting maximum efforts to maintain its status of compliance with IMO standards.

In fact, pursuant to its mandate, the MARINA will be attending the Sixth Session of IMO's Sub-Committee on HTW on 29 April to 3 May 2019 in London, United Kingdom, as part of the Philippine delegation to bolster our position in the White List.

The DOTr-MARINA bears paramount pride in the world-class qualities of our maritime workforce, and will do its utmost to secure the viability of livelihood of our seafarers.

We remain positive in maintaining our seafarers' standards of service as a prime reflection of Philippine maritime excellence.





# DOTr-MARINA commits full compliance with IMO standards to maintain “White List” status

15 April 2019



MANILA – The Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) commit to fully comply with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) for seafarers to maintain its status in the International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) “White List.”

The DOTr-MARINA is taking the necessary steps to consistently improve the country’s maritime education, training, examination, and assessment system.

According to DOTr Secretary Arthur Tugade, the MARINA should do its utmost to ensure that the country’s status in the IMO remains. “Dugo’t pawis ang puhunan ng ating mga marino sa kanilang trabaho. Hindi matatawaran ang sakripisyo at karangalang ibinigay nila sa bayan kaya nararapat lang na dugo’t pawis din ang ipuhunan ng gobyerno upang masigurong mananatili tayo sa IMO White List. Kailangang protektahan natin ang kabuhayan at kapakanan ng ating mga marino,” Secretary Tugade said.

Independent Evaluation as Part of Continuing Compliance Starting April 2019, a panel of international maritime experts will conduct an independent evaluation as part of the Philippines’ continuing compliance with the pertinent provisions, particularly Regulation I/8 or in the area of Quality Standards, of the International Convention on STCW, 1978, as amended.

As a State Party to the STCW Convention, the Philippines is mandated to ensure that an evaluation is periodically undertaken by qualified persons who are not involved in the implementation of this international regulatory instrument in the country.

The evaluation is aimed at providing an independent assessment of the effectiveness of the quality standard arrangements at all levels.

Meanwhile, MARINA OIC Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr. is confident that the evaluation of the country’s STCW system will solidify the Philippines inclusion in the “White List” of the IMO.



“Our engagement with the professional services of independent evaluators shows our full efforts in maintaining our seafarer’s reputation worldwide as a dependable maritime workforce. We will continue to comply with IMO standards for the benefit of our seafarers,” Vice Admiral Vingson said. The results of next month’s evaluation will form part of the regular Communication of Information of the Philippines to the IMO as required under Regulation I/7 of the Convention.

Caution against undue panic Contrary to recent reports, the Philippines is still included in the “White List” of the IMO, signifying the nation’s compliance with international maritime standards.

This is attested by the IMO MSC Circular (MSC.1/Circ.1163/Rev.11) published on 14 December 2018.

The “White List” refers to parties confirmed by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) to have communicated information that demonstrates the full and complete effect that is given to the relevant provisions of the STCW.

In a statement released on 21 March 2019, the DOTr and MARINA cautioned the public to remain vigilant against claims that the country was allegedly excluded from the IMO White List.

With proof of compliance with IMO standards, the livelihood of the country’s over 400,000 seafarers ultimately continues to be among the top priorities of the DOTr and MARINA.



# MARINA, CHED, PMMA, MHEIs revamp PH maritime education programs

16 January 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), together with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA), and the maritime higher education institutions (MHEIs) across the country, revamped the Philippine maritime education programs through the National Consultation on the Joint CHED Memorandum – MARINA Circular on the Revised Policies, Standards, and Guidelines for the Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT) and Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE) programs on 15 January 2019.



The participating government agencies and the private sector worked on the realignment of the Philippine maritime education policies and regulations with Executive Order No. 63 that mandated the MARINA as the single maritime administration in the full and effective implementation of the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) Convention 1978, as amended.

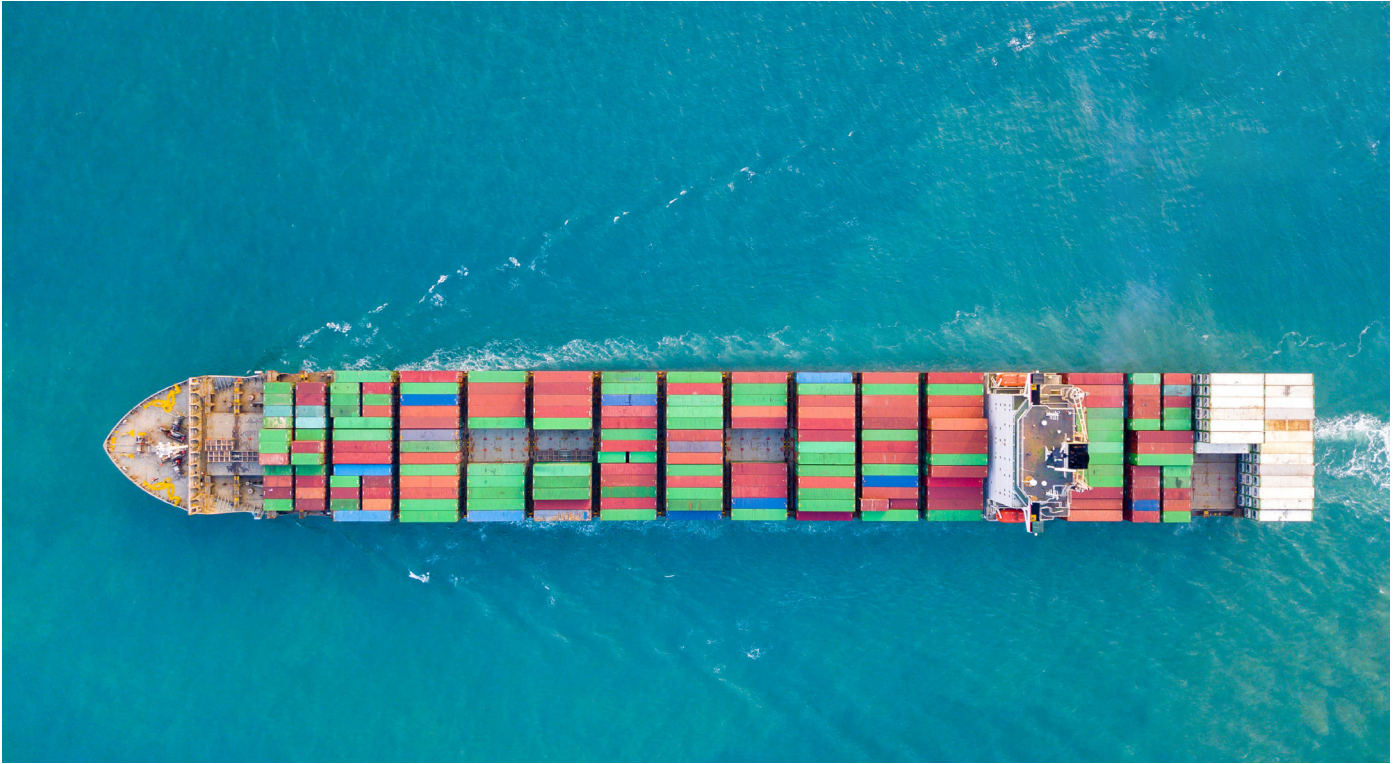


MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr emphasized that the Joint CHED Memorandum – MARINA Circular addresses the need for a more responsive policy to ensure the competitiveness of the Philippines' BSMT and BSMarE graduates, based on international standards.

"Our commitment to the STCW Convention shall lead us to the full adoption and implementation of the STCW requirements in our maritime education and training system. As the country's single maritime administration, it is our goal to implement a set of maritime education program standards and consolidate all academic and shipboard training requirements under a set of national policy, standards, and guidelines," Vice Admiral Vingson said.

Vice Admiral Vingson also recognized the combined efforts of the MARINA, CHED, PMMA and MHEIs in defining the developmental goals and targets of the Philippine maritime education and training, as well as in raising awareness on the impact of the whole of government approach for sustainable development in the maritime landscape, most especially in the maritime workforce.





Among the issues discussed at the national public hearing were the BSMT and BSMarE program specifications, standards of competence, assessment, and conferment of the said degrees. Also raised were clarifications on the curriculum; course specifications; required facilities, and equipment; research and extension; quality standards system; admission and retention; compliance of MHEIs, and; miscellaneous provisions, among others.

The results of the consultation were discussed further by the Technical Panel for Maritime Education (TPME), for recommendation to the commission en banc of CHED. The improvements on the revised policies, standards, and guidelines for the Bachelor BSMT and BSMarE programs are scheduled to be forwarded to MHEIs in December 2019 and for full implementation in 2020, with the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA) as the lead implementer.

Before adjournment, the MARINA encourages participating stakeholders to continuously contribute in the continuing recognition of the Philippines as the world's top provider of world class and globally competitive seafarers.

# Revised policies on two maritime educational programs now due for final CHED approval

1 April 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – In line with the continuous improvement of maritime education, training, and certification system in the Philippines, two maritime educational programs are now due for final approval of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) en banc.

This follows the final revisions made by the Technical Panel for Maritime Education (TPME), comprised of representatives from the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), CHED, as well as officials from the industry and the academe, on the proposed revised policies, standards, and guidelines (PSG) on the conduct of the Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT) and the Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE).

The proposed revised PSG underwent public consultations and deliberations during the TPME meetings. Specifically, maritime stakeholders deliberated on provisions concerning the authority to operate of maritime higher educational institutions (MHEIs), as well as the application and verification processes, and the minimum requirements prior to the granting of permit and recognition.

The sanctions against unauthorized MHEIs are also provided under the proposed revised PSG.

Further, maritime stakeholders discussed the conduct of regular curriculum review and internal evaluation to ensure continued compliance of MHEIs with the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for (STCW) Seafarers Convention 1978, as amended.

The MARINA is working double-time to improve the existing PSG on BSMT and BSMarE to maintain the Philippines' status as one of the top sources of competent seafarers who, apart from manning and leading internationally-flagged vessels, also contributed approximately PhP300 billion worth of remittance in 2017.

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) has expressed its full support to the MARINA in beefing up the competence of Filipino maritime manpower, guided by the STCW Convention 1978, as amended, pursuant to its mandate as the single maritime administration under Executive Order No. 63.

"I commend the MARINA for its efforts to uphold our position in the international maritime community by ensuring uncompromising compliance with international laws and conventions. There is no better time than now to further promote the welfare and enhance the proficiency of Filipino seafarers as we recognize their invaluable contribution to the national economy," DOTr Secretary Arthur Tugade said.

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr likewise encouraged maritime stakeholders to remain committed in establishing a conducive learning environment and providing quality learning experience to aspiring Filipino seafarers for the overall development of the Philippine maritime industry.

"Let us keep our passion burning for the continued improvement of the industry. Our Filipino seafarers remain to be our prime assets, so we should not waver in our efforts to continually raise their competence," Vice Admiral Vingson added.

# MARINA develops training standards on STCW mandatory courses

26 April 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has developed training standards for STCW mandatory training courses to ensure that the maritime education and training (MET) for aspiring Filipino seafarers are structured in accordance with written programs, methods, as well as media of delivery, procedures, and course materials necessary for the achievement of the prescribed standards of competence under the STCW Convention 1978, as amended.

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr emphasized that this is the first time for the Philippines, as a party signatory to the STCW Convention 1978, as amended, to develop and issue such training standards. In the past, all training courses being implemented and conducted in the country were based on the model courses published by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

“I am confident this will create positive impact on the quality of maritime education and training in the Philippines, thereby ensuring meaningful learning experiences for Filipino seafarers manning and serving domestic and internationally-flagged vessels,” Vice-Admiral Vingson said.

The training standards issued through STCW Advisory No. 2019-05 were results of the series of collaborative meetings, workshops, and other related activities between the MARINA, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), and other maritime education and training stakeholders.

There are 54 STCW mandatory training courses: 32 are full courses and 22 are refresher courses. Out of these 54 STCW mandatory training courses, the MARINA initially issued the minimum training standards for 23 courses under STCW Advisory No. 2019-05.

The training standards for the 31 remaining courses are currently being developed by the Maritime Education and Training Standards Supervisors (METSS) and the Research and Development Division (RDD) of the MARINA – STCW Office, with the assistance of several SMEs from the industry.

The said training standards are targeted to be completed by the end of 2019.

STCW Advisory No. 2019-05, which included the list of STCW mandatory training courses as annex thereof, together with the 23 training standards that were issued by MARINA, is available and can be downloaded at through the MARINA – STCW Office website ([www.stcw.marina.gov.ph](http://www.stcw.marina.gov.ph)).



# MARINA urges stakeholders to cooperate in enhancing MET system

24 May 2019

PASAY CITY, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has urged stakeholders to cooperate in enhancing the country's maritime education and training (MET) system at the Usapang STCW held Monday, 20 May 2019.

"Keeping the position of the Philippines as a major source of quality and highly-competent maritime workforce is our national mission. The MARINA is totally focused on achieving substantial transformation to uplift the standard of our maritime industry, especially our MET system. On behalf of the Philippine government, I am urging you to do your big part as well," MARINA OIC Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr said.

Moreover, The MARINA OIC emphasized that the upgrading of MET standards is essential in sustaining the Philippines' stance as the top country of choice in the seafaring industry amidst the increasing competition in the international maritime community.

Finally, Vice Admiral Vingson assured stakeholders that the agency is always open for constructive dialogues to come up with progressive policies for the welfare of the Filipino seafarers and other maritime partners, as envisioned in the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP). The Usapang STCW is a regular activity of the MARINA intended to update stakeholders and to discuss recommendations to improve the country's MET system.

In this particular session of the Usapang STCW, the MARINA discussed the enhancement of the qualification of maritime training instructors and assessors to ensure quality and productive learning experience for Filipino seafarers, as well



as the obligation of maritime training institutions in the delivery of training programs, as mandated by the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) Convention 1978, as amended.

The MARINA tackled the prescription of minimum training standards on mandatory courses which is one of the major actions taken by the Philippines to address the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) audit report. This measure is implemented to ensure that the country's MET are structured in accordance with written programs, methods, as well as media of delivery, procedures, and course materials necessary for the achievement of the prescribed standards of competence under the STCW Convention 1978, as amended. The regular forum on STCW issues concluded with the discussion of the processes of the MARINA Integrated Seafarers Management Online (MISMO) System.

# PH, Japan renew commitment on Maritime Education, Training

21 February 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Philippines, through the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), and Japan, through Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan (MLIT) and the Seamen's Employment Center of Japan (SECOJ), have renewed their commitment on improving maritime education and training by signing the memorandum of cooperation (MOC) on the "2019 Maritime Instructors' Training Scheme" yesterday, 19 February 2019.

Through this agreement, Japan will continue to host a number of qualified Filipino maritime instructors to improve their teaching skills and technical information related to their specialty through a two-month advanced training course program this year. Specifically, the delegates will learn about organizing practical training programs and constructing evaluation criteria on group training.

The delegates will be chosen based on the following criteria: (a) must be 25-49 years old; (b) proficient in English; (c) physically and mentally healthy; (d) have at least one year teaching experience in a navigational or engineering course; (e) qualified as an operational level seafarer for international voyage; and (f) willing to engage in maritime education and training for at least five years after completion of the training program.

The MARINA will send invitation to apply to recognized maritime higher education institutions (MHEIs) for possible nominations. The agency will prepare a list of preliminary delegates who will pass the initial selection process, while the final selection of participants will be done by SECOJ and MLIT.

Aside from the Philippines, Japan has conducted the said training program with maritime instructors from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Since the commencement of the MOC in 2010, 59 Filipino maritime instructors have successfully finished the program and have shared their learning experiences to thousands of aspiring Filipino seafarers.



# Seafaring industry not only for men, but also for women - MARINA

10 February 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has reiterated its full support and commitment to uphold gender and development (GAD) in the maritime industry.

At the recently concluded seminar-workshop on GAD, the MARINA GAD focal persons across the country reviewed its efforts to make its GAD-related initiatives more gender responsive and agreed measures to progress its work on this aspect.

The seminar-workshop served as an avenue to enhance the understanding of GAD concepts and introduce the concept of gender analysis as an essential component and tool for gender mainstreaming in its relevant programs and policies for the maritime industry.

The MARINA gives women the rights and privileges as men and shows the world that women have a place and even excel in the seafaring industry. As a matter of fact, the MARINA recorded 73,027 women seafarers or almost 10% of approximately 1 million Filipino seafarers issued with Seafarer's Identification and Record Book (SIRB) as of December 2018.

Hence, the Agency continues to showcase that women are at par with men in terms of working in the industry – showing an equitable and sustainable development with shared decision-making and responsibility by establishing its 'GAD corners' and implementing GAD initiatives in all of its regional offices.

Moreover, the MARINA, through its local chapter for Women in Maritime, has been campaigning for women to develop careers at sea and is actively involved in the promotion of equal rights for women in the

maritime industry.

With the implementation of the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), the MARINA assured to mainstream GAD in its relevant programs, down to specific activities and policies, rules and regulations.

This year, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) BANNERS the theme "Empowering Women in the Maritime Community" for the 2019 World Maritime Day in support of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #5 which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The IMO has significantly progressed its work on fostering an environment where women are identified and selected for career development opportunities in maritime administrations, ports, and maritime training institutes, and to encourage more conversation for gender equality in the maritime space.

In line with these objectives, the IMO will conduct Women in Maritime Associations (WIMA) Asia conference in March 2019 which will be participated in by the Philippines through the MARINA. The proposed theme of the conference is "Empowering Women in Maritime: Charting the Course of Leaders in Asia through SDGs". The Philippines has been elected as a member of the WIMA Asia Governing Council and shall also serve as the Secretariat.

Finally, the 3rd International Conference in Empowering Women in the Maritime Community, in commemoration of the 30 years of IMO's Women in Maritime programme, will be held in Malmo, Sweden on April 2019.



# MARINA hosts 2nd APEC Strategy Planning Meeting for Seafarers

5 April 2019



*Photo captured at AMOSUP*

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) hosted the 2nd Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Strategy Planning Meeting for the Seafarer Excellence Network of the Asia Pacific (SENAP) on 03-05 April 2019. The Korean Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology (KIMF) assisted in organizing the three-day meeting. The SENAP is a comprehensive network that promotes information sharing and skills transfer between the seafarers, the academe, and other industry stakeholders.

At the three-day meeting, the APEC delegates finalized the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the establishment and the sustainable operation of the SENAP. The APEC member economies also discussed the development of a seafarer career path from maritime education and training, pre-sea service, recruitment, sea service, post-sea service, and further professional development. KIMFT President Lee Dong Jae emphasized the importance of extending support and sharing of best practices among experts in the production of efficient maritime workforce in the APEC community.

“With the strong cooperation between APEC economies, the establishment of SENAP has taken shape to what it currently is – a substantial platform for achieving seafarer excellence through a network of maritime education and training best practices, capacity building programs, as well as maritime policies and regulations across the region,” KIMFT President Lee Dong Jae said.

The MARINA likewise encouraged the APEC delegates to be unwavering in their efforts to promote the welfare of the seafarers and the development of the maritime industry.

“We continue to beam with pride because of the passion and unity among APEC member economies to develop a maritime workforce known for their professionalism, moral standards, and excellence in service. Let us implement greater efforts to promote skilled maritime labor mobility within the APEC community and other nations in need of our seafarers,” MARINA – STCW Office OIC Executive Director Rear Admiral Virme Torralba said.

# MARINA hosts 2019 MET Conference

10 February 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To translate the trends in maritime education and training into assets of the Philippine maritime industry, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), in cooperation with the International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU), hosted the 2019 Maritime Education and Training (MET) Conference and Workshop in Manila on 21-22 February 2019.

The MET Conference started in 2016 through a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) between the MARINA and IAMU to provide an avenue for discussion on how to further advance maritime education and training in the Philippines.

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr and IAMU Executive Director Takeshi Nakazawa welcomed more than 200 representatives from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), maritime higher education institutions (MHEIs), maritime training centers (MTCs), seafarer associations, research groups and course developers, maritime instructors, as well as manning agencies participated in the two-day interactive discussion about the trends in maritime education and training, particularly about specialized maritime knowledge, student engagement,

Also tackled were the innovations in maritime education and training and how it impacted the society and the development of Filipino seafarers, the maritime education internet of things (IoT), and the fundamentals of running a training ship in 2020 and beyond.

Capt. Pradeep Chawla, Chairman of the Global Maritime Education and Training (GlobalMET) – an association of 80 maritime training institutes across the world, was one of the remarkable speakers who shared invaluable insights at the 2019 MET Conference.

Capt. Chawla affirmed that the Philippines will remain as one of the top suppliers of competent seafarers in the next ten years due to their high moral ethics, professionalism, and integrity compared to other nationalities.

With this, the country has to keep up with the latest advancements in maritime education and training by enhancing teaching methods through digitization and gamification, among others, as well as virtual reality and flip classroom to yield higher learning outcomes from maritime students. Through these initiatives, Capt. Chawla said future Filipino seafarers may have greater ability to process larger amount of data



at a time, better focus on critical issues, cope with increased stress level, be more assertive, and work efficiently with remote teams.

Above all, he emphasized the importance of continuous learning to active seafarers so they may contribute in the development of maritime education and training by becoming maritime instructors or trainers in the future.

Furthermore, the MARINA presented the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP) with emphasis on the manpower requirement that is needed to be developed to effectively implement the MIDP's eight priority programs, especially on shipyard, logistics, cruise tourism and the ancillary businesses of the first-ever maritime hub.

Aside from Professor Nakazawa, IAMU brought in Engr. Johan Ljungklint, Dr. Damir Zec, Mr. Vlado Fracic, and Mr. Nguyen Thanh Son to facilitate the open forum which focused on the future of the shipping industry through autonomous and/or smart ships, the developments in maritime education and training through digitization, threats on cyber security, and expectations to maritime instructors in 2020 and beyond. The two-day event concluded with the commitment from various maritime stakeholders to seek the way forward in the eventual enhancement of the Philippine maritime education and training system.



*IAMU Executive Director Takeshi Nakazawa*



*Dr. Damir Zec*



*Engr. Johan Ljungklint*



# MARINA partners with PNU on exam assessment

15 March 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has partnered with the Philippine Normal University (PNU) on the provision of technical assistance on the assessment of the competence of the seafarers anchored on the new assessment system under MARINA – STCW Circulars 2018-08 and 2018-09.

Through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed today, 15 March 2019, the MARINA – STCW office will be assisted by the PNU in capacitating its Board of Examiners (BOE) and in reviewing the current Table of Specifications (TOS) for the assessment of competence for various theoretical examinations.

The PNU will also work with the MARINA in the review of the tools for assessment using universally-accepted pedagogical methodologies, in the conduct of test item analysis to ensure the validity and reliability of test items, and in the establishment of a system for national and institutional passing percentage.

The implementation of the MARINA-PNU MOA will start on 18 March 2019 until 31 July 2019.

The MARINA expressed its utmost gratitude to the PNU for its willingness to extend its resources to elevate the competencies of MARINA – STCW officials and personnel.

The partnership with the PNU will allow the MARINA – STCW Office to better perform its responsibilities to create and evaluate the database of questions for competence-based examinations; as well as to review and replenish the database examination systems per required competence at a rate of 20% annually.

The MARINA issued STCW Circulars 2018-08 and 2018-09 for the new rules and mandatory minimum requirements in the assessment of competence of seafarers.

# MARINA celebrates Day of the Seafarer; launches SID

26 June 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To recognize the immense contributions of seafarers, not only in the Philippine economy, but also in the international seaborne trade, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has celebrated the “Day of the Seafarer” at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) on 25 June 2019.

The annual global event, which was coordinated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), was organized around the theme of gender equality and also linked with the slogan of the upcoming World Maritime Day on 26 September 2019, “Empowering Women in the Maritime Community.”

Department of Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade, through Undersecretary for Maritime Fernando Juan Perez, extended his greetings to all the seafarers and the MARINA for continuous effort and hardwork in developing the maritime industry.

“My heartfelt congratulations, as well as to the hardworking men and women of the MARINA. We have achieved leaps and bounds in the development of the

Philippine seafaring industry. Mabuhay ang mga manlalayag na Pilipino,” Secretary Tugade stated.

For his part, MARINA Officer-In-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr commended Filipino Seafarers for their huge contributions and emphasized that the agency is one with the world in celebrating the Day of the Seafarer.



“Today, we especially recognize the gallantry and service of our Filipino seafarers who are conquering high seas to provide for their families and keep the economy humming



through shipping. Our snappiest salute fittingly goes to the industry's unsung heroes," Vice Admiral Vingson said.

The MARINA's celebration of the Day of the Seafarer also included the mass oath-taking of new Merchant Marine officers who successfully passed the MARINA examination, a talk about mental wellness, a battle of the bands, and a concert, as well as the processing of Certificate of Proficiency (COP), Certificate of Competence (COC), and Seafarer's Identification and Record Book (SIRB).

Meanwhile, in a video message, IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim also recognized the important role of women in the international maritime industry.

"To everyone in shipping – you are missing out on a huge talent pool if you do not recognize and empower women in the workplace. Join our Day of the Seafarer campaign and get on board with gender equality at sea," IMO Secretary-General Lim said.

Convention 2003, as amended.

Generally, the SID will facilitate Filipino seafarers' shore leave, cross border, transfer, and repatriation even without a visa.



### Launching of SID

During the event, the MARINA also formally launched the Seafarer's Identity Document (SID).

The SID is developed in compliance with the standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention No. 185 or the Seafarers' Identity Documents





# GOOD GOVERNANCE



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# MARINA inaugurates central office building; celebrates 45th founding anniversary

6 June 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has formally inaugurated its first and newly-constructed central office building located at Bonifacio Drive corner 20th Street, Port Area yesterday, 05 June 2019.

Transportation Secretary Arthur P. Tugade led the inauguration of the 12-storey government building with a total floor area of 12,000 square meters and with an actual cost of P382 million.

The event was also witnessed by ANGKLA Partylist Rep. Jesulito Manalo, IMO Maritime Ambassador Carlos Salinas, Netherlands Ambassador to the Philippines Saskia de Lang, Norwegian Ambassador to the Philippines Bjorn Yahnsen, members of MARINA Board, and former MARINA administrators Marcial Amaro III and Vicente Suazo Jr., among other significant guests.



MARINA was first housed at the Philippine President Lines building in United Nations Avenue, Ermita, Manila for 35 years. In 2007, the MARINA transferred to YIC building, then to Parkview Plaza building along Taft Avenue in 2008, and eventually, to its present site in 2019.

The building's ship-inspired architecture is symbolic to the agency's full steam sail towards its mission of providing leadership in transforming the Philippines into a major maritime nation. While its crew, the men and women of the Agency, stay true to their mandate as they work in a culture of quality, competence, and dedication anchored on the shared values of professionalism, integrity, and excellence.

In unity with its valued stakeholders, MARINA continues to build a better nation for the Filipino people through an empowered maritime industry.



"You have the facility that is called a building. You have the people that is ready to work and be patriotic for the cause of the government, and you have the businesses and processes that will sustain the sustainable effective operation. And this is what today is all about," Secretary Tugade said.





## **MARINA celebrates 45th founding anniversary**

Aside from the inauguration of the central office building, the MARINA celebrated its 45th founding anniversary with the recognition of the remarkable performances of its employees and offices.

In the event, the MARINA also recognized the invaluable contributions of inter-agency partners and private stakeholders in enhancing the country's shipbuilding and ship repair sector, the domestic and overseas shipping industries, as well as the education and training of maritime manpower.

MARINA OIC Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr also shared the major accomplishments of MARINA since 1974 and highlighted its impacts in the maritime industry such as the reduction in the recorded average death toll from 207 fatalities annually from 1966 to 2015 to 13 fatalities from 2016 to 2018, faster processing time of seafarer documents from five days to just 30 minutes, as well as the application for the seaman's book from eight hours to just 15 minutes.

Furthermore, MARINA OIC assured maritime stakeholders of greater growth in the country's maritime industry with the intensified implementation of the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP) that aims to upgrade the domestic shipping in support of the nautical highway development; to promote of maritime tourism; to establish the country's coastal inland waterways transport system; to enhance the safety in Philippine-registered fishing vessels; to establish the Philippines' first-ever global maritime hub; to enhance the country's maritime safety, to modernize maritime security, and to establish a maritime innovation and knowledge center.

MARINA is also focused in the reinforcement of its modernization campaign through a vessel retirement program and in the Philippines' reelection to the IMO Council in the 31st General Assembly in November this year.

Finally, MARINA OIC emphasized that aside from the MIDP, the MARINA is also continuing to chart its path guided by long-term national provisions such as AmBisyon Natin 2040 and the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 while remaining keen to the country's compliance to international maritime conventions.

# MARINA launches 45th year anniversary celebration; receives ISO Certification

6 June 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has launched its 45th year anniversary celebration through the recognition of the winners of the photo, video, slogan, and logo competitions graced by Hon. Jesulito A. Manalo, House Committee Chairperson on Overseas Workers Affairs, today, 06 May 2019.

On September 2018, the MARINA opened the 45th year anniversary competitions to the public to encourage them to take part in the celebration of the Agency's milestone. After eight months and hundreds of entries from seafarers, professionals, and students, the MARINA finally awarded the 12 winners, with three winning entries per category.

Karlo Angelo Batir, a seafarer from Iloilo, won the first place in the photo competition, while Richard Paul Mendoza, a BS Marine Transportation graduate, championed in the video competition.

Moreover, the official logo and slogan of the MARINA's 45th year anniversary were crafted out of the entries of John Bermejo from Caloocan City and Baby Argawanon from Cebu City.

"MARINA's 45th year anniversary symbolizes 45 years of dedicated service anchored on professionalism, integrity, and excellence. I challenge everyone: Let us give our best in the things that we do so our clients will feel the positive change in the service that we provide," Hon. Manalo said.

## MARINA – STCW Office receives ISO Certification

Furthermore, the event served as an avenue for MARINA – STCW Office to receive its International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015 from the Bureau Veritas Certification – Philippines.

On October 2018, Bureau Veritas Certification – Philippines conducted an audit of the QMS of the MARINA – STCW Office to determine its level of compliance with the requirements of the ISO standards, of which the office successfully passed. Administrative Order No. 161 (2006) and Executive Order No. 605 (2007) required the government to institutionalize its Quality Management System (QMS) for the enhancement of its internal systems and processes, resulting in efficient and effective delivery of public service.

"This certificate is a testament of our commitment to deliver quality services to the public in accordance with established standards, policies, and procedures. It is my sincere hope that the culture of quality will be deeply ingrained in all personnel of the MARINA, so we may continuously serve the nation with professionalism, integrity, and excellence," MARINA OIC Vice-Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr said, as delivered by MARINA Deputy Administrator for Operations Engr. Nannette Villamor-Dinopol.



# MARINA gears up for IMSAS 2021

20 February 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To gear up the country's overall performance as a Member State in the incoming International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) on 2021, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) hosts a training and workshop for the Philippine maritime administration on 18 to 22 February 2019.

IMO Consultant, Mr. Mourad Ghorbel, administers the activity to assist the government before the scheduled audit that will look into the country's implementation and enforcement of mandatory IMO conventions including the Safety of Life at Seas (SOLAS), International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), Convention on International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS), International Convention on Load Lines, and International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships and the International Convention for the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for seafarers.

Ghorbel discusses the procedures of the IMSAS such as the review of the purpose, scope, and objectives of the audit, the presentation of observations, the delivery of actions by the member state being audited, and the conduct of special meetings prior to or after the audit closing meeting.

The responsibilities of the Philippines as an IMO Member State will also be deliberated which include: to prepare for the mandatory audit, to address the audit findings through corrective actions, and to conduct capacity-building of its personnel, as needed. Finally, various learning exercises and activities were also conducted to measure the country's readiness for the audit.

Aside from the MARINA, the activity is also participated by representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Cebu Port Authority (CPA), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), and the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA).

The IMO conducts IMSAS to provide Member States such as the Philippines with comprehensive and objective assessment on the implementation and enforcement of mandatory IMO conventions above stated.



# MARINA Strengthens Collaboration with Overseas Shipping Stakeholders

13 February 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has strengthened its collaboration with the government agencies and the private sector whose interests are anchored on the overseas shipping industry.

In a meeting with the involved stakeholders, the MARINA highlighted the importance of active cooperation and collaboration in achieving the plans and programs for the maritime industry, specifically those under the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP).



Engr. Ramon Hernandez of the MARINA – Shipyards Regulation Service (SRS) shared the prospective industry and economic impacts of the establishment of the first-ever global maritime hub, which is the Priority Program #5 of the 10-year MIDP.

Engr. Hernandez emphasized that the global maritime hub shall promote the Philippine flag registry, develop the Philippines as transshipment and bunkering hub in the Southeast Asian Region, upgrade and expand local shipyards, as well as lead to the establishment of an eco-industrial maritime park and maritime training and research center.

“The implementation of the MIDP will lead to the development of the maritime industry and consequently contribute to the growth of the country’s gross domestic product (GDP). The MIDP priority programs shall only mean good and positive to the country’s maritime industry as we strive to reform, revitalize and innovate for the future,” Engr. Hernandez said.

Furthermore, Atty. Jean Ver Pia of the MARINA – OSS discussed the activities under the different components of having an attractive Philippine registry which is one of the projects under the Priority Program #5: Establishment of the Global Maritime Hub of the 10-year MIDP.

These include the:

- (1) Strengthening of regional and international cooperation such as with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other similar bilateral agreements to support the competitive position of Philippine Flag Vessels;
- (2) Strengthening of shipping services for Philippine export and import trade transportation;
- (3) Development and promotion of ship financing schemes, and incentives for ship owning and shipping industry;
- (4) Review and improvement of bare-boat chartering program and ship mortgage law;
- (5) Strengthening of ship management, ship brokerage, ship handling and ship insurance services; and
- (6) Strengthening of the maritime administration through ratification and implementation of international maritime instruments and restructuring of MARINA.

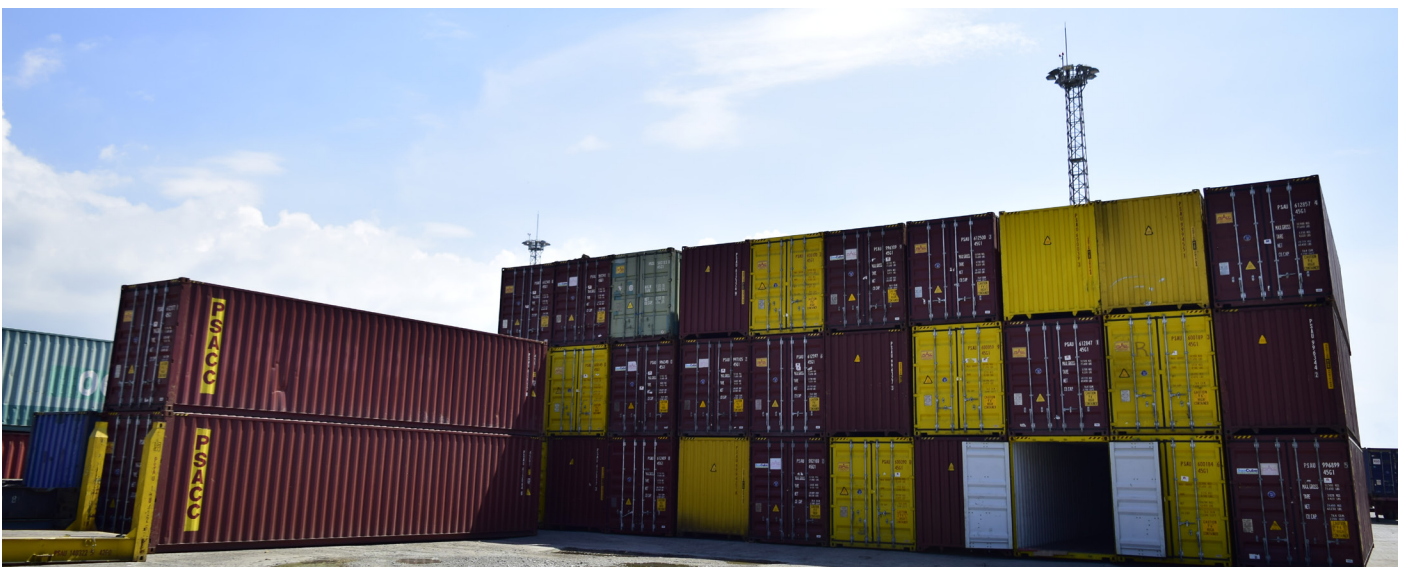




The conceptual framework of the Maritime Safety Campaign was also discussed by Dir. Jose Venancio Vero of the MARINA – Maritime Safety Service (MSS), highlighting how it will ensure the strict and full compliance of Philippine-registered ships plying the international trade with significant IMO instruments relating to safety, security and marine environmental protection. This will ensure the facilitation of trade and commerce as it prevents the unnecessary interdiction of Philippine-registered ships by foreign port State control inspectors.

Finally, the MARINA also talked about the draft amendments to the MARINA circulars on the “Rules in the Acquisition of Ships under Presidential Decree (PD) 760, as amended, “Rules on the Accreditation of Maritime Enterprises”, and “Omnibus Rules on the Issuance of Special Permit for the Temporary Utilization of Philippine-registered ships whether Trading Overseas or Domestic” respectively.

The meeting ended with the re-launching of the MARINA – OSS online registration system to promote ease and convenience in doing business in the overseas shipping industry.





# MARINA hosts training, write-shop for IMSAS 2021

28 April 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To further improve the implementation of international standards in the country's maritime industry, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) hosted another training course and write-shop for auditors under the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS).

On 22-27 April 2019, training expert from IMO and the International Maritime Safety Security Environment Academy (IMSSEA) Mourad Ghorbel, discussed the roles and responsibilities of the audit team, the audit preparation and processes among others. He also trained the auditors in recognizing and resolving potential challenges that may be encountered during the audit processes.

The two-day write-shop on 29-30 April 2019, on the other hand, is allotted for the drafting of the country's pre-audit questionnaire and national maritime strategy to ensure that its international obligations and responsibilities as a flag, port and coastal State are met.

MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr believed that the continuous support of various government agencies in the country's preparation for the IMSAS audit in 2021 is vital in the enhancement of the Philippine maritime

"Let us work together in concretizing our actions and schemes to enhance maritime safety, ensure marine environment protection, and effectively implement mandatory IMO instruments that guide our ship operations into complying with international standards," Vice Admiral Vingson said.

The training course is participated by representatives from the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) and Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA).

The IMO conducts IMSAS to provide member states, such as the Philippines, with comprehensive and objective assessment on the implementation and enforcement of mandatory IMO instruments pertaining to safety of life at sea, prevention of pollution from ships, regulations for preventing collisions at sea, load lines, and tonnage measurement of ships and standards of training, certification and watchkeeping for seafarers.





## MARINA hosts 144th Maritime Forum

26 April 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – To strengthen inter-agency collaboration for the enhancement of the country's maritime industry, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), in collaboration with the Maritime League, hosted the 144th maritime forum in Manila today, 26 April 2019.

MARINA OIC – Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr welcomed the government and private sector partners of the Maritime League and reiterated the MARINA's support to the non-profit maritime foundation through information sharing, cooperation, and unity.

"I look forward to more harmonious efforts such as this forum in advancing the maritime interest of the Philippines towards becoming a strong maritime nation," Vice Admiral Vingson said.

The MARINA presented the latest initiatives to promote the welfare of the seafarers, including the implementation of the Executive Order No. 63, the MARINA Integrated System Management Online (MISMO), as well as the revised policies, standards, and guidelines (PSG) on the conduct of the Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT) and the Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE).

The MARINA also discussed updates on the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), including the activities conducted during the first quarter of 2019 which were aligned to the objectives of the MIDP's eight priority programs.

Several initiatives highlighted included the newly-opened Roll-on / Roll-off routes for the improvement of the country's Road RoRo Terminal System (RRTS), awareness campaigns on maritime tourism, progress on the establishment of the first-ever Coastal and Inland Waterways Transport System (CIWTS) as a response to land-based traffic condition, collaborative meetings with public and private stakeholders on the realization of the Philippine's global maritime hub, as well as the rules and regulations on maritime safety and maritime security.

Since 1990, the Maritime League advances the interest of the country's maritime sector and promotes maritime safety and industry development through various communication efforts such as the regular conduct of the maritime forum.

# MARINA holds 20th PH - NL JCMA Meeting

28 April 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has successfully conducted the 20th Philippines – Netherlands Joint Committee on Maritime Affairs (JCMA) meeting in Manila on 20 March 2019.



The Philippines-Netherlands JCMA was organized in 1999 to support high-level bilateral consultations on maritime affairs, highlighting the significance of the maritime relations between the involved countries. Filipino seafarers have been active contributors on Dutch-registered merchant fleet. In return, the Royal Association of Netherlands Ship-owners (KVRN) have been assisting in the enhancement of maritime educational programs of the Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT) in Leyte for over a decade.

At the meeting, MARINA Officer-in-Charge Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr formally informed the Netherlands on the signing of the Executive Order (EO) No. 63 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) few days after the 19th JCMA last year.

Generally, EO 63 further strengthened the authority of the MARINA as the single maritime administration, specifically in the implementation of the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping

(STCW) for Seafarers 1978, as amended.

Moreover, the MARINA OIC presented the agency's latest digital platform known as the "MARINA Integrated Seafarers Management Online (MISMO) System now being utilized in the application and processing of the Seafarers Identification and Record Book (SIRB) and STCW certificates, among others. Vice Admiral Vingson also expressed his confidence of the Netherlands' technical expertise to help the Philippines in establishing the infrastructure needed in the successful implementation of the agency's plans and programs, especially those incorporated in the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP) which the Dutch visitors commended thereafter.



Miss Lieske Streefkerk-Arts of the Netherlands' Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment assured the Philippines of their continuous support in all of its efforts to enhance the country's seafaring and maritime industries.

Both parties agreed to maintain an open line of communication to receive important reports on the country's maritime industry until the 21st JCMA meeting scheduled in March 2020.

# MARINA receives Level II CSC recognition on human resource management

20 February 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – In support of the government’s continuing commitment to provide efficient and effective public service delivery and institutionalize meritocracy on human resource management competency, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has received Level II recognition from the Civil Service Commission (CSC) for its commendable human resource management system.

The Agency has been particularly applauded for its significant progress in the areas of recruitment, selection and placement; learning and development; performance management; as well as, rewards and recognition for its human resources development program.

The MARINA fosters good governance among its employees by promoting people excellence through professionalism, integrity, and excellence as its core values. Guided by these principles, the MARINA personnel are transformed from government employees into servant heroes through their daily service.

“This is the fruit of our labor that shall inspire us to serve better our stakeholders. Let us raise the bar of public service by setting good example. There is no room for mediocrity in our Agency” MARINA OIC Vice Admiral Narciso Vingson Jr said.

To date, the MARINA has 1,059 employees serving the central office and 11 regional offices across the country. Supervised by 27 service units and regional office directors, the Agency remains committed to continually find relevant and timely interventions to transform its workforce as responsible public servants for the maritime industry and to the nation.



# MARINA Holds 1st IMSAS Council Meeting

21 June 2019

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – In preparation for the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) in 2021, the first IMSAS Inter-agency Council meeting has convened at the MARINA Central Office to consider the preparatory activities undertaken by the agencies performing maritime administration functions.

Through Department Order No. 2018-006, the IMSAS Inter-agency Council which is composed of representatives from the DOTr, MARINA, Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) is created to ensure that the Philippines meets its obligations and responsibilities as an IMO Member State.

In the first IMSAS Inter-agency Council meeting, Department of Transportation (DOTr) OIC – Undersecretary for Maritime Fernando Juan C. Perez spearheaded the discussions on the draft Philippine IMO Strategy and Cross Table of Responsibilities.

The draft Philippine IMO Strategy contained the measures that the Philippines will adopt to fully and effectively implement and enforce the mandatory IMO Instruments which it has ratified including the Safety of Life at Seas (SOLAS), International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), Convention on International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS), International Convention on Load Lines, and International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships and the International Convention for the Standards of Training, Certification

and Watchkeeping for seafarers. It also highlighted the key performance indicators (KPIs), timeline, office, and budget to ensure that it has given full and complete effect to the international maritime instruments.

Furthermore, the Council exchanged views on the Cross Table of Responsibilities, specifically on the delineation of the roles and responsibilities of the Philippine maritime administration under the mandatory IMO instruments.

Meanwhile, the Council also discussed the draft department order on the designation of a single point of contact for IMSAS 2021 and the creation of an IMSAS support and implementation unit as action plans after the IMSAS mock audit conducted in 2018. Finally, MARINA OIC-Administrator Vice Admiral Narciso A Vingson Jr emphasized the importance of complying with international obligations and responsibilities of the Philippines as a State Party, specifically in boosting the confidence of the Philippines as a maritime nation to trade with other countries.



# MARINA strengthens policies on maritime tourism

21 June 2019



MANILA, PHILIPPINES – As envisioned in the 10-year maritime industry development plan (MIDP), the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has strengthened policies on maritime tourism by issuing rules and regulations on the registration, licensing, and operation of recreational boats for commercial or private use within the Philippine territorial waters.

Per Memorandum Circular Number DS-2019-01, MARINA has defined recreational boats as vessels of up to 150.9 feet / 46 meters or less, with a capacity of up to 10 tons of cargo, used exclusively for recreational or tourism development purposes, either commercially or privately.

Recreational boats to be registered may be locally-built or imported new vessels. Previously registered boats under MARINA, as well as previously unregistered boats existing in the country under Amnesty rules are also welcomed.

Filipino citizens and/or domestic partnerships, associations, or corporations are allowed to register recreational boats for commercial or private use. Recreational boats registered under a foreign national and/or foreign-owned domestic company or corporation shall only be used privately.

On the completion of the registration of a recreational boat, MARINA shall grant a Certificate of Ownership and the Recreational Boat Certificate valid for five (5) years and must be renewed before its expiration.

Furthermore, MARINA shall keep and maintain a Registry of Recreational Boat to record essential information including: the name of the recreational boats, its homeports and official numbers, the name of the builders with the place and year built, as well as vessel specifications, among others.

However, a recreational boat may be deleted from the Registry of Recreational Boat if the vessel is sold for export; when MARINA revokes the approval of the charter / lease contract for a cause and after due process; when the vessel suffers actual or constructive loss; when it undergoes shipbreaking or shiprecycling; upon the request of the registered owner; when the Administration orders the deletion from the registry due to violations of government rules and regulations; and when the Recreational Boat Certificate is not renewed after expiration.

For the complete list of documentary requirements and other details about the rules and regulations on the registration, licensing, and operation of recreational boats, the public is encouraged to read the









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