



**MARINA ADVISORY No. 2020-08**  
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**TO: ALL SEAFARERS, SHIP OWNERS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, PORT STATE CONTROL, FLAG STATE, OTHER ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT: GUIDANCE CONCERNING FILIPINO SEAFARERS ONBOARD VESSELS AFFECTED BY RESTRICTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2019-nCoV OUTBREAK**

Considering the recent outbreak of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease (2019-nCoV ARD) affecting populations in various parts of the world, several countries have imposed travel advisories which include trade restrictions resulting to the limited entry and exit of ships to and from ports of affected countries, particularly in China and its Special Administrative Regions.

Taking into account that there might be seafarers on Philippine-flagged vessels whose STCW certificate/s shall expire onboard because their planned disembarkation cannot be safely completed in affected ports, or whose STCW certificate/s shall expire onboard during the period of their voyage to and from the next convenient port where disembarkation of the concerned seafarer can be safely carried out, the Administration may issue the necessary dispensation permit upon application of their respective Manning/Crewing Agencies and Shipping Companies pursuant to MARINA Circular No. 2011-02.

Moreover, all local ship management and manning companies should immediately coordinate with the Flag State Administration of their affected vessels for whatever arrangement and extension of all necessary assistance to all seafarers, particularly Filipino seafarers with expiring STCW certificate/s.

This Administration likewise advises the Master of the concerned vessels to request a written statement from the Port or Immigration Authorities that disembarkation is not permitted due to the prevailing situation. This written statement can be presented as an evidence to the next port of destination or convenient port where the concerned seafarer can disembark and be replaced by a new crew.

Finally, all ship owners/shipping companies, port state control and flag state authorities, other entities and individuals concerned, especially Filipino seafarers currently onboard vessels operating within the affected areas, are encouraged to exercise precautionary measures necessary to prevent transmission of the disease.

Please be guided accordingly.

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