In view of the imposed community quarantine in the NCR and other areas in the Philippines due to COVID-19 pandemic and the declaration of a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 929 dated 16 March 2020, notice is hereby given that the guidelines set under STCW Advisory No. 2020-02 on the issuance of unclaimed Certificates of Assessment of Competence, are hereby amended as follows:

1. Certificate of Passing the Theoretical Examination
   a. The Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Office (STCWO) of this Authority, through the Examination and Assessment Division (EAD) and the MARINA Regional Offices (MROs) shall keep the unclaimed Certificates until 31 December 2020 only.
   b. All unclaimed Certificates beyond the said date shall be transferred to the MARINA Central Office’s General Services Division (GSD) for proper disposition.
   c. Concerned seafarers who wish to secure their Certificate beyond the said date shall be required to re-apply and pay for the new certificate.

2. Certificate of Passing the Practical Assessment
   a. The Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Office (STCWO) of this Authority, through the Examination and Assessment Division (EAD) and the MARINA Regional Offices (MROs) shall keep the unclaimed Certificates until 31 December 2020 only.
   b. All unclaimed Certificates of Assessment shall be returned to its respective Assessment Center upon resumption of office operation in January 2021. Therefore, starting January 2021, all concerned seafarers may claim their Certificates from the Assessment Center where they took the practical assessment. Concerned seafarers will be given two (2) notices to claim their certificates:
a.1 The first notice will be sent via Short Messaging Service (SMS) or text message to the applicant-seafarer’s registered mobile number immediately upon approval of this Advisory; and

b.1 The second and final notice will be sent via Short Messaging Service (SMS) or text message on **November 2020**, one (1) month prior to transfer of certificates to relevant Division/Assessment Center.

While the country is still under a State of Calamity, all seafarers are advised to observe the safety and health protocols imposed by the Administration. Further, before claiming the certificate/s from EAD, seafarers shall secure a time slot/appointment at EAD by sending an email to the Division’s official email address at stcwo_ead@marina.gov.ph or send text message at +63923 743 0311 to maintain proper physical distancing inside the MARINA premises. An email/text confirmation from EAD will be sent to the seafarer and shall be presented to the MARINA guard-on-duty to be able to proceed at the EAD Releasing Area.

For guidance and strict compliance.

VADM ROBERT A EMPEDRAD AFP (Ret)
Administrator