



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2020- 63

TO : ALL SEAFARERS, LICENSED MANNING AGENCIES / SHIPPING COMPANIES, MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, ASSESSMENT CENTERS AND ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : REVALIDATION OF STCW CERTIFICATES OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS AMID CHALLENGES CAUSED BY COVID-19

In view of the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 outbreak in the conduct of trainings of seafarers and revalidation of STCW certificates; and pursuant to the provision of IMO Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.5/Rev.1 dated 02 April 2020 which encouraged the issuing Administration and the Port State control authorities to take a pragmatic and practical approach with regard to the extension of certificates and endorsement, as strictly necessary, in accordance with the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended, the following guidelines shall be prescribed and adopted by Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA):

1. Application for revalidation of **Certificate of Proficiency (COP)**, whether expired and/or without the required refresher training, shall be accepted and processed, provided the applicant seafarer has completed seagoing service performing the duties appropriate to the certificate held, for a period of at least:
 - 1.1 Twelve (12) months in total during the last 3 years prior to revalidation; OR
 - 1.2 Three (3) months in total during the last 6 months immediately prior to revalidating;
2. COP in tanker courses shall be accepted for revalidation, even if it is expired, provided the applicant seafarer has completed approved seagoing service, performing the duties appropriate to the tanker certificate held, for a period of at least 3 months in total during the preceding 5 years;
3. Revalidation of **Certificate of Competency (COC)** shall be accepted and processed, whether expired or not, provided the applicant seafarer has completed seagoing service in the capacity appropriate to the COC to be revalidated, for a period of at least:
 - 2.1 Twelve (12) months in total during the preceding five (5) years prior to revalidation, OR
 - 2.2 Three (3) months in total during the preceding 6 months immediately prior to revalidating.

3. Seafarers applying for revalidation of COP and COC under this Advisory shall meet the standards of medical fitness specified in Section A-I/9 of the STCW Code, and a valid medical certificate from the DOH-accredited medical clinic shall be submitted / encoded into the MISMO system;
4. Only seafarers who are scheduled for deployment within 10 calendar days from the date of the application are qualified under this Advisory. Applications under this Advisory shall be filed for expedited processing through the MISMO system and shall be facilitated only by the authorized Liaison Officer of the concerned licensed manning agency / shipping company. Documentary requirements for expedite application shall be uploaded into the MISMO system, as follows:
 - 4.1 Letter from concerned licensed manning agency duly signed by authorized official requesting for the expedited processing of the application of its seafarer; and
 - 4.2 POEA-approved employment contract.
5. COP and COC revalidated pursuant to this Advisory shall have a validity period of **one (1) year only** from the date of issuance. Whenever the revalidation of any of these certificates is to be carried out, the applicant seafarer shall comply with the requirements for revalidation and the five (5) year validity date shall be reckoned from the original expiration date of the previous certificate.

Notwithstanding the above, applications for revalidation of COP and COC of seafarers with complete documentary requirements are continuously accepted and processed through the MISMO system and shall be given a validity period of five (5) years in accordance with the pertinent circulars.

This Advisory shall take effect immediately and shall be valid only until **31 October 2020** unless sooner revoked or a separate advisory was issued extending the validity of this Advisory.

For strict compliance.



VADM ROBERT A EMPEDRAD AFP (Ret)
Administrator