



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY



**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO.: SC- 2020-03**  
**Series of 2020**

**TO : ALL SEAFARERS, MANNING AGENCIES, SHIPPING COMPANIES, MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, ASSESSMENT CENTERS, MARITIME HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER MARITIME INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. SC-2020-02**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree (PD) No. 474, Republic Act No. 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended and in view of the need to amend Article II of MARINA Memorandum Circular No. SC-2020-02 to further extend the deadline to complete the assessment of competence of seafarers due to travel restrictions and delayed crew change brought about by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the herein amendments are hereby promulgated and adopted:

### **Article I** **OBJECTIVE**

**Section 1.** The objective of this Circular is to amend Article II of Memorandum Circular No. SC-2020-02 which amends the Article IX – Transitory Provisions of the STCW Circulars No. 2018-08 and 2018-09 relative to the revised rules and mandatory minimum requirements in the assessment of competence under the relevant provisions of the following Chapters of STCW Convention, 1978, as amended:

- a. Chapter II – Master and Deck Department;
- b. Chapter III – Engine Department; and
- c. Chapter IV – GMDSS Radio Operators.

### **Article II** **AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE IX – TRANSITORY PROVISIONS OF STCW CIRCULAR NOS. 2018-08 AND 2018-09**

**Section 2.** The provisions under **Section 22, Article IX – Transitory Provisions of the STCW Circular No. 2018-08** are hereby amended to read as follows:

**“Section 22. xxx**

All seafarers who took the assessment of competence under STCW Circular Nos. 2014-08, 2014-10, 2014-12 and 2016-17 (Old System) before 01 December 2019, including those who exceeded the two (2) years prescribed period (expiring theoretical examination records) from 13 March 2020 onwards, shall be given last and final extension to complete and pass the said assessment of competence under the same Circulars **until 30 June 2021**.

Effective **01 July 2021**, the assessment of competence shall be under the New System in accordance with STCW Circular No. 2018-08, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Seafarers under the Old System who were not able to pass the theoretical examination **on or before 30 June 2021** shall apply and retake the examination under the STCW Circular No. 2018-08;
- b. Seafarers who passed the Officers-In-Charge of a Navigational Watch theoretical examination under STCW Circular No. 2014-08 but have not taken the GMDSS Radio Operator theoretical examination **on or before 30 June 2021** shall apply and take the said theoretical examination under the STCW Circular No. 2018-08; and
- c. Seafarers who passed the theoretical examination but were not able to take the practical assessment under the Old System **on or before 30 June 2021** shall take the practical assessment under the STCW Circular No. 2018-08."

**Section 3.** The provisions under **Section 22, Article IX – Transitory Provisions of the STCW Circular No. 2018-09** are hereby amended to read as follows:

**"Section 22.** xxx

All seafarers who took the assessment of competence under STCW Circular Nos. 2014-09, 2014-11, 2014-13 and 2016-13 (Old System) before 01 December 2019, including those who exceeded the two (2) years prescribed period (expiring theoretical examination records) from 13 March 2020 onwards, shall be given last and final extension to complete and pass the said assessment of competence under the same Circulars **until 30 June 2021**.

Effective **01 July 2021**, the assessment of competence shall be under the New System in accordance with STCW Circular No. 2018-09, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Seafarers under the Old System who were not able to pass the theoretical examination **on or before 30 June 2021** shall apply and retake the examination under the STCW Circular No. 2018-09; and



- b. Seafarers who passed the theoretical examination but were not able to take the practical assessment under the Old System **on or before 30 June 2021** shall take the practical assessment under the STCW Circular No. 2018-09.”

### **Article III REPEALING CLAUSE**

**Section 4.** MARINA Memorandum Circular No. SC-2020-02 is hereby amended. Other existing MARINA and STCW Circulars, STCW Advisories, rules and regulations which are contrary or inconsistent with this Circular are hereby superseded, repealed or amended accordingly.

### **Article IV SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

**Section 5.** If any provision or part of this Circular is declared by any competent authority to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect and shall continue to be valid and effective.

### **Article V EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE**

**Section 6.** This Memorandum Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and submission to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).

Done in Manila, Philippines on DEC 23 2020.

**BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD:**

  
**VADM ROBERT A EMPEDRAD AFP (Ret)**  
Administrator

### SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Memorandum Circular No. SC 2020- 03 was approved by the MARINA Board during its 282nd Regular MARINA Board Meeting held on 14 December 2020.



**ATTY. EUSEBIA CADLUM-BOCO**  
Board Secretary

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