



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY**



**MARINA ADVISORY No. 2021 - 08**  
Series of 2021

**TO : ALL CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES, DOMESTIC SHIPPING COMPANIES/ OPERATORS AND OTHER MARITIME ENTITIES/ PARTIES CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : MORATORIUM ON THE ACCREDITATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AND ENTITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLASSIFICATION OF SHIPS IN THE DOMESTIC TRADE**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 474, Republic Act No. 9295 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) and in line with the impending transition from the old regime to the new rules and regulations on the accreditation of classification societies and entities for the purpose of classification of ships in the domestic trade, the following rules and regulations establishing a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for the issuance of Certificate of Accreditation (COA) as Classification Society as per MARINA Circular (MC) No. 165 or MC No. MS-2020-01 are hereby promulgated and imposed.

**Scope and Application.** All new applications filed after the date of effectivity of the herein moratorium shall not be accepted and/or duly returned to the proponent LCS. Further, all application filed prior to the effectivity of this advisory which are 'incomplete' and are still pending upon the taking in effect of this advisory shall also be duly returned to the proponent.

**Exemptions.** The moratorium shall not apply to the following:

- (a) All applications that have already been submitted with complete required documents and under-process prior to the issuance of this Advisory, provided that:
  - i. *For application which the required audit is not yet conducted.* The required audit and/or the closing-out of non-conformities found during audit, if there is any, shall be conducted and completed not more than three (3) months from the date of effectivity of this advisory.
  - ii. *For application which the required audit is already conducted.* Any unclosed non-conformities shall be acted upon by the subject organization and shall be closed-out within the prescribed window and shall not go beyond three (3) months from the date of effectivity of this advisory.
- (b) Existing Classification Society with valid COA, provided that the subject organization shall at all times observe due diligence and shall faithfully discharge their duties in ensuring compliance with the rules and regulations set forth in the MC No. 165 or MC No. MS-2020-01; and provided further that the LCS shall not be subjected to cancellation of license or withdrawal of its COA as prescribed by the same rules and

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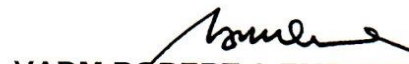
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regulations, in which case, the LCS shall now be covered by this advisory and shall not be allowed re-certification within the duration of this moratorium.

- (c) Members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) with existing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with this Authority which are not required for accreditation under Paragraph 2, Section I of MC No. 165, provided that they shall apply for accreditation under MC No. MS-2020-01, with complete documentary requirements submitted within the prescribed period of transitory provision or within one (1) year after effectivity of MC No. MS-2020-01 as per its Section XVI.

**Effectivity.** The moratorium herein provided shall take effect immediately from the date of publication of this Advisory and shall remain in force until withdrawn or lifted by the Administration.

For guidance and strict compliance of all concerned.

  
VADM ROBERT A EMPEDRAD AFP (Ret)  
Administrator 