



# STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION – AS OF AUGUST 2021

## I. BACKGROUND



By virtue of Presidential Decree No. 474, otherwise known as the Maritime Industry Decree of 1974, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) was established on 01 June 1974 to integrate the development, promotion and regulation of the maritime industry in the country.

The MARINA, currently spearheaded by the Administrator, VADM Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), remains faithful throughout the years in maintaining its thrust of providing service to the stakeholders, particularly the seafarers,

shipowners & other maritime-related entities by providing quality service and implementing practicable and coordinated policies, projects and programs which aims to improve the overall contributions of the maritime industry throughout the country.



The accomplishments presented in this report is guided by the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP), a blueprint which serves as a long-term guide for the accelerated development of the Philippine maritime sector in order to realize its



goals directed towards the development of a nationally-integrated and globally competitive maritime industry.

On another note, the Administrator, as head of the Agency also provided specific directives to serve as short-term guidelines for organizational capacity-building initiatives known as “*The Administrator’s 10-Point Agenda*”. This set of directives is geared towards setting the priorities of the organization to improve the quality of service and overall performance of MARINA.

## **II. ABOUT THE REPORT**

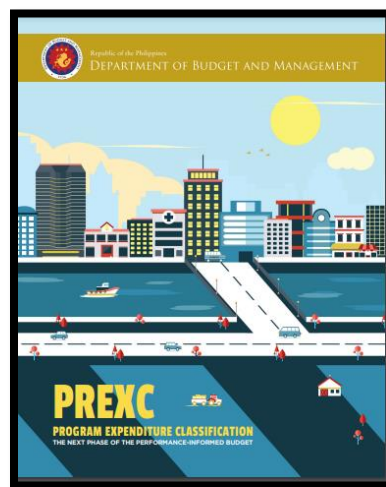
This report shall provide the readers with adequate information on the actual accomplishments of the Agency for the period January to August 2021, which include the following:

- Key Policy Issuances, which covers updates on policy accomplishments
- Other Important Reports
- Status of Programs / Activities / Projects Implemented
- Other Agency Accomplishments

## **III. KEY POLICY ISSUANCES**

Since 2015, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) strategically commits the formulation of sixteen (16) policies every year through the Program Expenditure Classification (PREX-C) implemented by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

The aforementioned program is the logical continuation of Performance-Informed Budgeting (PIB) which reflects the link between strategies, budget and results and facilitates the monitoring and evaluation of programs with the performance indicators attached to each program.





In line with such commitments, the MARINA, thru its Management and Technical Working Groups (TWG) are utilizing its full capacity to review existing regulations and formulate effective policies to improve its quality of service and respond to the needs of its stakeholders for the betterment of the maritime industry.

With these initiatives, the MARINA has already accomplished 70% or 11/16 policies as of August 2021 and were published, namely:

### **MEMORANDUM CIRCULARS**

No.	CODE	TITLE OF POLICY	DATE PUBLISHED
1	SC 2021-01	Amendment to Article V of STCW Circulars No. 2018-08 and 2018-09	01 March 2021
2	SC 2021-02	Revised Rules on the Monitoring of Approved Training Courses (ATCs) Conducted by the Maritime Training Institutions (MTIs), and Assessment of Seafarer's Competence Carried Out by Accredited Assessment Centers (ACs)	18 March 2021
3	DS 2021-01	Revised Rules in the Grant of Missionary Route Status for RoRo Passenger Ships	19 March 2021
4	SC 2021-03	Revised Rules and Mandatory Minimum Requirements in the Issuance and Revalidation of Certificate of Competency for Masters, Chiefmates, and Officers-in-Charge of a Navigational Watch on Seagoing Ships of 500GT or more under Chapter II and for Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) Radio Operators on Ships Required to Participate in the GMDSS under Chapter IV of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended	23 March 2021
5	SC 2021-04	Revised Rules in the Issuance and Revalidation of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) for Basic Training, Survival Craft and Rescue Boats other than Fast Rescue Boats, Fast Rescue Boats, Advanced Fire Fighting, Medical Care, Ship Security Officer and Training and Seafarers with Designated Security Duties under Chapter VI of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended	23 March 2021



No.	CODE	TITLE OF POLICY	DATE PUBLISHED
6	SC 2021-05	Revised Rules and Mandatory Minimum Requirements in the Issuance and Revalidation of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) for Seafarers Serving on Tanker Ships, Ships Subject to the IGF Code and Ships Operating in Polar Waters under Chapter V of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended	23 March 2021
7	SC 2021-06	Revised Rules and Mandatory Minimum Requirements in the Issuance and Revalidation of Certificate of Competency (COC) for Chief Engineer Officers, Second Engineer Officers, Officers-in-Charge of an Engineering Watch in a Manned Engine-Room or Designated Duty Engineer Officer in a Periodically Unmanned Engine-Room and Electro-Technical Officers Serving on Seagoing Ships Powered by Main Propulsion Machinery of 750kW Propulsion Power or More Under Chapter III of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended	18 March 2021
8	SC 2021-07	Fees and Charges relating to the Implementation of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended	06 June 2021
9	SR-2021-01	Revised Rules and Regulations on the Tonnage Measurement of Philippine-Registered Ships	10 August 2021
10	SR 2021-02	Revised Rules and Regulations on Load Line Survey, Assignment, Marking and Certification for Philippine-Registered Ships	10 August 2021
11	SR 2021-03	Revised Guidelines in the Implementation for Presidential Decree No. 1221	10 August 2021

The Agency also published 45 Advisories for the period, specifically:

### **MARINA ADVISORIES**

#### **1. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-01 – LIFTING OF THE MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF MARITIME TRAINING COURSES AND ASSESSMENT CENTERS**

Notifies all Maritime Training Institutions (MTIs), Assessment Centers (ACs) and all other entities concerned of the repeal of STCW Advisory Nos. 2017-16 and 2018-02 which lifts the moratorium on the accreditation of maritime training courses and moratorium on the accreditation of assessment centers, respectively. This Advisory



likewise provides guidelines for the applicants, may it be MTIs or ACs, to apply for accreditation of training courses and assessments of competency. (Published on 07 January 2021)

**2. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-02 – RULES / GUIDELINES ON THE POSTING OF PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF TRIPS**

Provides for the guidelines on the posting of proposed schedule of trips to ensure that the riding public and the shipowners, ship operators, charterers have ample time to plan ahead of their trips / voyages / shipments particularly because of the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and weather disturbances. (Published on 07 January 2021)

**3. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-03 – REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF TRAVEL BAN EXEMPTION FOR FOREIGN WORKERS**

Informs all shipping companies, shipowners/charterers requesting endorsement of travel ban exemption for foreign workers must secure a permit from the Department of Labor and employment – Bureau of Local Employment (DOLE – BLE) as the Agency responsible for regulating the entry of foreign workers in the country (Published 21 January 2021)

**4. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-04 – AMENDMENT OF MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2020-84 – FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF THE ENDORSEMENT TO THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT (BOI)**

Advises all concerned that the MARINA shall continue the issuance of the Endorsement to BOI for shipping companies applying for BOI registration.

**5. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-05 – REITERATION OF THE TRANSITORY PROVISION OF MARINA CIRCULAR NO. 2019-01, “RULES AND REGULATIONS IN THE ISSUANCE OF SEAFARER’S RECORD BOOK (SRB) AND SEAFARER’S IDENTITY DOCUMENT**

Provides specific clarifications on the interpretation of the Section VIII, Transitory Provision of MARINA Circular No. 2019-01, otherwise known as the “Rules and Regulations in the Issuance of Seafarer’s Record Book (SRB) and Seafarer’s Identity Document”, particularly:

- Seafarers holding valid SIRB need not to apply for SID. SIRBs continue to serve as identification documents for Filipino Seafarers;
- The issuance of SRBs and SIDs only becomes mandatory upon expiration of SIRBs;





- Application for the issuance of SID shall be optional for Filipino Seafarers holding SIDs, however, issuance of SID and SRB shall be applied six (6) months prior to the expiration of SIRBs; and
- Filipino Seafarers on-board ships trading domestic waters are not required to have SIDs. (Published 04 February 2021)

**6. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-06 – ADVISORY EXTENDING THE AMNESTY PROGRAM FOR REGISTRATION OF UNDOCUMENTED RECREATIONAL BOATS**

Notifies all shipping companies, ship operators, ship managers, ship charterers and all others concerned that an Amnesty Program for existing or undocumented recreational boats which expired last 30 December 2020 shall be extended for one (1) more year effective on 31 December 2020 up to 31 December 2021, in view of the disruptions and pertinent issues brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. (Published on 12 February 2021)

**7. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-07 – GUIDELINES ON THE SUBMISSION OF PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS, ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PASSING THE PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

Provides the guidelines on the submission of practical assessment reports, issuance of Certificate of Passing the Practical Assessment and other related matters pursuant to STCW Circular No. 2015-10 and in view of the operationalization of the MARINA Integrated Seafarers Management Online (MISMO) System. (Published 12 February 2021)

**8. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-08 – MORATORIUM ON THE ACCREDITATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

Establishes a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for the issuance of Certificate of Accreditation as Classification Society per MARINA Circular No. 165 or MC No. MS 2020-01. This Advisory also details the scope and the exemptions of the moratorium. (Published on 12 February 2021)

**9. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-09 – EXTENSION OF MARINA POLICIES ON THE REDUCTION OF FEES AND CHARGES, WAIVER OF FINES AND OTHER MONETARY PENALTIES FOR LATE FILING, NON-FILING OR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION OR REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS AND EXTENSION OF DEADLINES FOR THE FILING OF DOCUMENTS**

In line with Section 4 of RA 11494, otherwise known as the “Bayanihan to Recover as One Act”, particularly Section 3(a), Section 4(gg), sub-par. (2), par. (tt) and par.



www) this Advisory outlines the extension of validity of policies reducing fees and charges, waiving fines and other monetary penalties for late filing, non-filing or failure to comply with compulsory notification of reportorial requirements, and extending deadlines for the filing of documents until 30 June 2021 or until another issuance supersedes this Advisory. (Published on February 2021)

#### **10. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-10 – Newly Approved Training Standards**

Enumerates the available training standards for tanker courses pursuant to STCW Advisory No. 2019-05 or the “*Clarifications and Supplemental Guidelines on the Implementation of STCW Circular No. 2018-02 entitled Standards for Mandatory Training Courses under the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended*” which may be downloadable through the official website of the STCW Office. (Published on 05 March 2021)

#### **11. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-11 – Extension of Implementation of MARINA Advisory Bo. 2020-59 (Blended Learning Mode of Training)**

In line with the extension of the General Community Quarantine (GCQ) within various parts of the country, this Advisory extends the implementation of MARINA Advisory No. 2021-59 until the STCW Circular No. 2016-12 or the Guidelines on Training and Assessment of Seafarers by Distance Learning and E-Learning in Accordance with the Provisions of Regulation I/6 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended has been reviewed and implemented. (Published on 05 March 2021)

#### **12. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-12 – Suspension of Expedite Processing of Applications filed through Liaison Officers of Local Manning Agencies (LMAs)**

Notifies all seafarers, Local Manning Agencies (LMAs) and all others concerned that the Expedite Processing of application for seafarer’s STCW certificates thru LMAs Liaison Officers shall be suspended until further notice. Moreover, all accredited Liaison Officers shall also be suspended from transacting business relative to these certificates. (Published on 07 March 2021)

#### **13. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-13 – Approved Standardized Sea Travel Protocols**

Provides specific standardized travel protocols for sea which shall take effect starting 01 March 2021, pursuant to the Department of Transportation (DOTr) Memorandum dated 27 February 2021 and in relation to the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) Resolution No. 101 s. 2021, dated 26 February 2021. (Published on 10 March 2021)



**14. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-14 – Harmonization on the System of Survey and Certification of Philippine-registered Domestic Ships**

To provide a system to harmonize the survey / inspection and issuance of Load Line Certificate and Ship Safety Certificates of Philippine-registered trade, this Advisory provides notice on the:

- Validity of not more than five (5) years of cargo ship safety certificates, subject to annual endorsement within three (3) months before or after the anniversary date of its annual survey, co-terminus with the Load Line Certificate;
- Non-extension of the Load Line Certificates after its five (5) year validity;
- Requirement for vessels to undergo dry-docking twice within the five (5) year dry-docking cycle, pursuant to MC No. 152;
- Passenger Ship Safety Certificates shall be issued to all passenger ships which shall be valid for not more than one (1) year. (Published on 12 March 2021)

**15. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-15 – Pilot Implementation of the Phase I of the Integrated Domestic Shipping Information System (IDSIS)**

Informs all concerned that the Administration shall conduct the pilot implementation of the Phase I of the IDSIS, a web-based application which automates the filing and processing of relevant domestic shipping applications through <https://idsis.marina.gov.ph>. (Published on 03 March 2021)

**16. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-16 – Seafarer-related Guidelines in View of the Declaration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in NCR+ from March 20 to April 4, 2021**

In view of the declaration of the ECQ, this advisory shall provide guidelines for the conduct of trainings, examination and assessment and issuance of STCW Certificates. (Published on 28 March 2021)

**17. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-17 – Approved Standard for Sea Travel Protocols**

Provides information to all shipping companies, owners, operators and all others concerned that effective from 28 March 2021 until 12:00mn of 04 April 2021, the provisions applicable to ECQ areas shall be in effect in the NCR+ bubble. This Advisory also informs all concerned that the maritime transport shall continue servicing the public at 50% capacity, in line with the protocols provided by the DOTr. (Published on 31 March 2021)





**18. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-18 – Termination / Cancellation on the Issuance of the STCW Certificate of Endorsement (COE) in the Certification of Filipino Seafarers Who Serve the Capacity as Marine Deck and Engine Officers**

Provides notice that the COE shall be officially terminated and incorporated in the existing COC. (Published on 31 March 2021)

**19. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-19 – GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF ACCREDITATION OF CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AND ITS EFFECT TO THE VALIDITY OF SHIP SAFETY CERTIFICATES**

Reiterates the requirement pursuant of MC No. MS-2021-01 and its Transitory Provision that existing Classification Societies giving Classification Services for Domestic Ships, whether accredited under MC 165 or members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) should comply with the following within one (1) year after the effectivity of the said MC:

- The Class Certificate issued to a Ship by LCS with expired COA and unable to secure accreditation under MS-2020-01 shall be considered valid only when issued, endorsed or renewed prior to the expiration of the COA;
- The Class Certificate issued by a Member of the IACS unable to secure accreditation under MS 2020-01 shall be considered valid only when issued, endorsed or renewed on or prior to the end of the transition period or until 16 October 2021; and
- A ship with Class Certificate not endorsed or renewed shall be given six (6) months to transfer to another Class Society with a valid COA. (Published 07 April 2021)

**20. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-20 – APPROVED STANDARD FOR SEA TRAVEL PROTOCOLS UNDER THE MODIFIED ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE IN NCR+ AND OTHER SELECTED AREAS**

Provides information that Maritime transport shall continue servicing the public at fifty percent (50%) capacity in view of the declaration from the Office of the President (OP) of the implementation of Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in NCR plus and other selected areas effective 12 to 30 April 2021.

This Advisory also reiterates the approved standardized protocols for sea as contained in MC Nos. 2021-13 and 2021-17. (Published 14 April 2021)



**21. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-21 – REVISED TRAINING STANDARDS UNDER STCW ADVISORY NO. 2019-05**

Informs all concerned of the availability of the following revised STCW training courses through the MARINA-STCW Office Website:

- Personal Survival Techniques (under Basic Training Full Course);
- Refresher Course on Basic Training (Personal Survival Techniques; and
- Refresher Course on Fast Rescue Boat.

This Advisory also reminds all MTIs with valid course approval on the above-mentioned training courses to submit the enumerated documentary requirements as evidence of compliance with the revised standards to the Accreditation Division of STCWO through its official e-mail at [stcw\\_accr@marina.gov.ph](mailto:stcw_accr@marina.gov.ph).

Further MTIs are also informed that the after conducting the revised course, they shall also be required to submit copies of records of implementation of at least two (2) batches to the Research and Development Division, STCWO through [stcwo\\_rdd@marina.gov.ph](mailto:stcwo_rdd@marina.gov.ph) for purposes of inspection and monitoring. (Published 08 April 2021)

**22. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-22 – STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ONLINE APPOINTMENT SYSTEM (OAS) FOR THE SEAFARER RECORD BOOK AND SEAFARER IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT (SID) SYSTEM**

In line with the efforts to automate and efficiently deliver the services of MARINA, this Advisory provides guidelines to be adopted for the implementation of OAS of the SRB and SID System. (Published on 21 April 2021)

**23. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-23 – CLARIFICATION OF STCW ADVISORY NO. 2019-05 ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STCW CIRCULAR NO. 2018-02 ENTITLED “STANDARDS FOR MANDATORY TRAINING COURSES UNDER STCW CONVENTION, 1978, AS AMENDED”**

Reiterates that (1) Management Level Course (MLC) for Marine Deck and Engine Officers (2) Operational Level Course (OLC) for Marine Deck and Engine Officers (3) Electro-Technical Officers and (4) Electro-Technical Ratings (ETR) are not considered mandatory pursuant to STCW Circular No. 2018-02.

The same advisory further informs all Seafarers, Maritime Training Institutions and all others concerned that only the following courses shall be required from Seafarers who failed three (3) times in their examination or assessment in line with the provisions of STCW Circular Nos. 2018-08 and 2018-09:



- 1) MLC for Marine Deck and Engine Officers;
- 2) OLC for Marine Deck and Engine Officers; and
- 3) Electro-Technical Officers. (Published 13 May 2021)

**24. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-24 – GUIDELINES FOR INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF MOORING EQUIPMENT INCLUDING LINES (MSC.1/Circ.1620) AND GUIDELINES ON THE DESIGN OF MOORING ARRANGEMENTS AND THE SELECTION OF APPROPRIATE MOORING EQUIPMENT AND FITTINGS FOR SAFE MOORING (MSC.1/Circ. 1619)**

Provides information on the guidelines approved by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) on the inspection and maintenance of mooring equipment, including lines, design and selection of appropriate mooring equipment and fittings for safe mooring operations in line with MSC.1/Circ. 1619 and MSC./1Circ. 1620. (Published 11 May 2021)

**25. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-25 – AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF SAFE PRACTICE FOR CARGO STOWAGE AND SECURING (CSS CODE) (MSC.1/Circ. 1623) AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF SAFE PRACTICE FOR SHIPS CARRYING TIMBER DECK CARGOES, 2011 (2011 TDC CODE) (MSC.1/Circ.1624)**

Provides notice on the approval of the amendments to the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing (CSS Code) and Code of Safe Practice for Ships Carrying Timber Deck Cargoes, 2011 during the 102<sup>nd</sup> session of the Maritime Safety Committee.

**26. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-26 – MANDATORY REGISTRATION USING THE SAFE, SWIFT AND SMART PASSAGE (S-PASS) TRAVEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN ALL DOMESTIC MARITIME TRAVEL**

Informs all concerned that ship passengers shall be required to register the required information using the S-PASS, accessible through s-pass.ph. This requirement is in line with the efforts to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 pursuant to Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Resolution No. 101, Series of 2021. (Published on 18 May 2021)

**27. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-27 – DEFERMENT OF PENALTY UNDER SECTION 9 OF MARINA CIRCULAR NOS. MC-SC 2021-03, MC-SC 2021-04, MC-SC-2021-05 AND MC-SC 2021-06**

Provides notice to all seafarers and other entities concerned that Section 9 of MARINA Circular Nos. SC 2021-03, SC 2021-04, SC 2021-05 and SC 2021-06



pertaining to the penalties for late filing for revalidation of expired COP/COC are deferred effective immediately. (Published 18 May 2021)

**28. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-27 – REGISTRATION OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS SCHEDULED FOR DEPLOYMENT WITHIN THE NEXT 90 DAYS TO THE VACCINATION PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Inform all concerned, especially shipping companies that seafarers scheduled for deployment within the next ninety (90) days starting 01 July 2021 that are eligible to receive their required doses of vaccine in June 2021 in line with the vaccination program of the government are hereby advised to submit the company's deployment plan for the period covering July to September 2021.

The Advisory likewise provides information on the vaccination sites for seafarers to be deployed in July and August 2021, respectively. (Published on 25 May 2021)

**29. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-29 – FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF STCW CERTIFICATES AS A TEMPORARY CONTINGENCY MEASURES AMIDST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Inform all Seafarers, Licensed Manning Agencies (LMAs), Shipping Companies, Ship Owners and Operators, Stakeholders and all others concerned that the validity of seafarer's certificates and endorsement shall be extended up to 31 December 2021 without the need to file for application of extension by virtue of the earlier MARINA Advisories (MA) issued, particularly MA No. 2020-83, MA No. 2020-73, MA No. 2020-66 and MA No. 2020-64.

All STCW Certificates that are expiring between the period of 01 July 2021 to December 2021 shall likewise be extended for a period of one (1) year from the date of expiry of the certificates without the need to file for an application of extension at the MARINA. (Published 01 June 2021)

**30. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-30 – OBSERVANCE OF PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES DURING TROPICAL DEPRESSION, TYPHOON OR STORM**

Advise all domestic shipowners, bareboat charterers, ship operators and all others concerned of the precautionary measures in view of the imminent threat of tropical storm "Dante" as forecasted by PAGASA on its possible entry in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) to ensure the safety of life and property at sea and protect the marine environment. (Published 01 June 2021)



**31. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-31 – RED SEA SECURITY ADVISORY**

Reminds all shipping companies, ship owners, ship operators, ship charterers with ships engaged in international voyages to strictly implement their respective Ship Security Plans onboard when passing through the Red Sea in line with the incident which occurred last 19 December 2020, when MT SARAB a VLCC was attacked by armed boats and attack helicopters within the area. (Published 09 June 2021)

**32. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-32 – FURTHER AMENDMENT OF MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2020-91 ON EXTENDING THE COVERAGE OF EXPIRING SIRB/SRB FOR SEAFARERS CURRENTLY ONBOARD SHIPS OPERATING BOTH IN DOMESTIC AND OVERSEAS**

Informs all seafarers, LMAs / Shipping Companies, Ship Owners and Operators and all others concerned of the amendment of MA No. 2020-91, pertaining to the extension of validity of the Seafarers' Record Book (SRB) expiring between 01 July to 31 December 2021 in order to facilitate the conduct of crew change through alleviating the plight of Filipino Seafarers. (Published 16 June 2021)

**33. MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2021-33 – QATAR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION (MOTC) APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR DOCKING OF VESSEL**

Notifies all Philippine overseas shipping companies, shipowners and all others concerned that the Qatar MOTC requires submission of applications for docking of vessels ten (10) days before the arrival of the subject ship to give the MOTC ample time to take the necessary steps in the issuance of approvals and further avoid delays. (Published 18 June 2021)

**34. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-34 – Declaration of RoRo Missionary Routes in Support of Tourism and Domestic Trade**

In line with Section IV.1 of Memorandum Circular No. DS-2021-01 otherwise known as the *"Revised Rules in the Grant of Missionary Route Status for RoRo Passenger Ships"*, this MARINA Advisory provides a list of unserved routes declared as RoRo Missionary Routes. (Published on 09 July 2021)

**35. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-35 – Implementation of MARINA Memorandum Circular No. MS-2020-01**

Reiterates specific and salient provisions of Memorandum Circular No. MS-2020-01 or the *"Revised Rules on the Accreditation of Classification Societies and Entities for the Purpose of Classification of Ships in the Domestic Trade"* for the information



of all Classification Societies, Domestic Shipping Companies and all others concerned. (Published 09 July 2021)

**36. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-36 – Pilot Implementation of the Passenger e-Manifest System (PEMS) for Passenger Ships Calling the Port of Cagayan de Oro**

Notifies all passengers, shipping companies, ship operators, ship charterers in Cagayan de Oro and all others concerned on the initial adoption and implementation of the Passenger E-Manifest System (PEMS) and its pilot implementation covering all passenger ships calling the port of Cagayan de Oro.

The PEMS is a web-based document management application to enable the real-time sharing of ships' Passenger Management information amongst shipping companies, maritime agencies and the local government of the passengers' final destination. Further information on the PEMS maybe accessed through <https://passengertracer.net/faq.php>. (Published 10 July 2021)

**37. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-37 – Approved Standardized Sea Travel Protocols**

Informs all Practical Assessment Centers (PAC) of the approval of the revision of the following Competency Mapping for Support Level of Responsibility as basis by all PACS in the creation of practical assessment scenarios:

- Ratings Forming part of a Navigational Watch;
- Able Seafarer Deck;
- Ratings Forming Part of an Engineering Watch;
- Able Seafarer Engine; and
- Electro-Technical Ratings. (Published 07 July 2021)

**38. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-38 – New Sailing Direction for the Changhua Wind Farm Channel from the Maritime and Port Bureau (MPB) of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Republic of China (Taiwan)**

Informs all entities concerned including shipowners, bareboat charterers, ship operators, etc. of the implementation of the new sailing direction for the Changhua Wind Farm Channel starting 26 October 2021.

The New Sailing Direction requires all vessels entering and exiting the Channel in the Taiwan Strait for navigation to report to Changhua Vessel Traffic Service (Published 13 July 2021)





**39. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-39 – New Guidelines on the Processing Expedite Applications for the Issuance and Revalidation of STCW Certificates**

Provides notice to all stakeholders that starting 14 July 2021, the Certification Division of the STCW Office will process and accept expedite applications for issuance and revalidation of STCW Certificates to seafarer-applicants without requiring the following documents:

- Letter request from Manning Agencies;
- Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC);
- POEA Contract;
- Flight details (e-Ticket). (Published on 16 July 2021)

**40. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-40 – Conduct of Audit relative to the implementation of Memorandum Circular No. MS 2020-01**

In line with the preparation for the Implementation of the above-mentioned Circular otherwise known as the “Revised Rules on the Accreditation of Classification Societies and Entities for the Purpose of Classification of Ships in the Domestic Trade, this Advisory notifies all Local Classification Societies, Domestic Shipping Companies / Operators and all other entities concerned that:

- All existing LCS with valid Certificate of Accreditation pursuant to MC No. 165 shall be subjected to an audit any time before 16 October 2021;
- Existing LCS shall be provided with the new MARINA Audit Checklist;
- All eligible Classification Societies are encouraged to submit their application to MARINA before 15 September 2021 to facilitate the issuance of Certificate of Accreditation. (Published on 24 July 2021)

**41. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-41 – Roll-out of 30k Moderna Vaccines**

Informs all Licensed Manning Agencies (LMAs), Domestic Shipping Companies, Seafarers and all others concerned that the MARINA shall undertake a nationwide roll-out of the Moderna Vaccines to all seafarers scheduled for deployment within the next ninety (90) days. This advisory also provides for the guidelines for the availment of these vaccines. (Published on 27 July 2021)

**42. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-42 – Application for the Issuance of Certificate of Competency (COC) of all Officer-Seafarers already assessed by the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC)**

Informs Marine Deck and Marine Engine Officers who passed the theoretical and practical assessments from the PRC but have yet to secure their COCs under MARINA could file and process their applications with the STCW Office. This



Advisory also provides for the requirements necessary for the processing of such applications. (Published on 27 July 2021)

**43. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-47 – Guidelines Relative to the Training and Processing of Certificates for Seafarers Serving the Domestic Ships and the Issuance of Seafarer’s Record Book (SRB) and Seafarer’s Identity Document (SID) during the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ)**

Pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 130-A dated 29 July 2021 and in line with the implementation of the ECQ, this Advisory relating to the guidelines relative to the conduct of approved training courses for seafarers serving domestic ships, processing of certificates and other documents concerning seafarers serving the domestic ships and processing and issuance of SRB and SID for compliance and reference of all related stakeholders involved in the maritime industry during the ECQ. (Published on 01 August 2021)

**44. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-48 – Guidelines on STCW Related Activities during the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine**

This Advisory provides for the guidelines for the issuance of STCW related certificates and conduct of trainings, examinations and assessments in view of the implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in the NCR and all other parts of the country starting 21 August 2021 (Published on 21 August 2021).

**45. MARINA Advisory No. 2021-49 – Additional Guidelines on the Revalidation of Certificate of Proficiency (COP) Issued Under Regulation VI/1, VI/2 and VI/3 and in Accordance with Sections A-VI/1, A-VI/2 and VI/3 and in Accordance with Sections A-VI/1, A-VI/2 and VI/3 of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW Conventions**

This Advisory provides notice to all Seafarers, Maritime Training Institutions (MTI), Shipowners and all others concerned on the adoption of the following guidelines:

- Seafarers qualified in accordance with the above-mentioned regulations shall be required to provide evidence of having maintained the required standard of competence every five (5) years;

Seafarers with onboard training and experience of 12 months for every five (5) years for maintaining the required standard of competence shall be accepted as evidence in lieu of the corresponding refresher training. (Published 26 August 2021)



#### **IV. OTHER IMPORTANT REPORTS**

##### **MARINA Accomplishments corresponding to the Program Expenditures Classification (PREXC) Indicators and Targets as of 31 August 2021<sup>1</sup>**

###### **Organizational Outcome 1:**

*“Global competitiveness of maritime industry enhanced”*

PARTICULARS	2021	
	TARGET	ACTUAL
<b>Maritime Industry Promotion and Development Program</b>		
<i>Outcome Indicator(s)</i>		
1. % increase in the number of operating ships	10%	67.42%
	or	or
	2,413	1,628
1. Number of Policies formulated, updated, issued and disseminated	16	59

**Maritime Industry Promotion and Development Program.** Under this program, the Maritime Industry has one (1) Outcome Indicator and Output Indicator which measures the effectiveness and efficiency of the aforementioned program. The MARINA in CY 2020 has registered a total of 3,456 operating merchant ships. In 2021, the MARINA registered a total of 1,628 operating merchant ships as of August 2021, which is 67.47% of the total target for CY 2021.

As to the efficiency of the program, MARINA has a constant target of 16 policy formulations or 4 policies per quarter in the form of Memorandum Circulars, MARINA Advisories/Flag State Administration Advisories. For the CY 2020, a total of 108 policies were issued of which majority are COVID-19 related issuances and as of August 2021 a total of 59 policies were already issued.

It must be noted that Advisories published by MARINA were also accounted for in the figure above and that out of the 59 policies, 11 are in the form of Memorandum Circulars (as mentioned in the Key Policy Issuances) while 48 were MARINA Advisories.

###### **Organizational Outcome 2:**

*“Accessibility, safety and efficiency of maritime transport services improved”*

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<sup>1</sup> Formerly known as the Organizational Performance Indicator Framework;



## MARITIME INDUSTRY REGULATION AND SUPERVISION PROGRAM

PARTICULARS	2021	
	TARGET	ACTUAL
<b>Maritime Industry Regulation and Supervision Program</b>		
<i>Outcome Indicator(s)</i>		
1. % of clients who rate the frontline services as satisfactory or better	70%	94% or 15,354
2. % increase in the number of Filipino seafarers certified as meeting the international standards	100% or 48,468	135% or 65,343
<i>Output Indicator(s)</i>		
1. % of applications received are acted upon within the standard processing time	100%	100% or 484,195
2. % of complaints/reports of violations received are acted upon within the standard processing time	100%	100% or 470

**Maritime Industry Regulation and Supervision Program.** This program measures the effectiveness and efficiency relative to the operations of the Maritime Industry with two (2) outcome and output indicators. For outcome indicator 1, due to various community quarantine guidelines implemented and the alternative work arrangement adopted by the Agency, the Client Satisfaction Survey was conducted to fewer clients nationwide.

In 2021, some of the offices were able to conduct these surveys to their clients wherein 94% or 15,354 respondents rated MARINA services as Very Satisfactory. For outcome indicator 2, there are 65,343 seafarers were certified as meeting the international standards through the issuance of Certificates of Competency and Proficiency under Regulations II, III and IV of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended. For the output indicators, MARINA has attended to and processed a total of 484,195 applications which were acted upon within or earlier than the Standard Processing Time (SPT).



Lastly, MARINA has received a total of 470 complaints/reports of maritime violations and these were acted upon within the standard processing time (SPT) through the issuance of Show Cause Orders and/or Decisions/Resolutions.

## **V. PROJECTS / PROGRAMS / ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED**

### **10 YEAR MARITIME INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (MIDP)**



The strategic planning and project development of the MARINA is guided by its long-term goals streamlined under the 10-Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP). The MIDP is comprised of nine (9) priority programs which serves as a guide to achieve the Agency's goals – to accelerate the achievement of a nationally-integrated and globally

competitive maritime industry through developing and supporting an organizational culture and practice of leading in maritime education, innovation, technology and sustainability.

The formulation of the 10 Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) is pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 474, series of 1974 otherwise known as the Maritime Industry Decree Act of 1974 or the Charter Creating the MARINA. The entire process of formulation of the MIDP was guided by relevant national legislations and plans particularly PD 474 of 1974, Ambisyon 2040, PDP 2017-2022, Republic Act No. 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2030), and relevant Philippine Government international and regional commitments for the maritime sector.

As mentioned, the 10-Year MIDP features nine (9) priority programs including the following:





These proposed programs are strategically formulated and categorized in order to carry out projects geared towards the following objectives: (1) increasing domestic production capacity in ship building and ship repair based on global and domestic demand for shipping, fishing and maritime tourism; (2) upgrading maritime technologies, and support localization of the supply chain; (3) development and expansion of maritime tourism routes and destinations in support of the national government's priority programs; (4) continual upgrading of higher maritime education and training program consistent with Standards for Training Certification, and Watchkeeping (STCW) Conventions; (5) development and/or supporting of best practices in maritime safety and security; and (6) strengthening of inter-agency and multi-sectoral collaboration and public participation in the implementation of the MIDP.

In line with MARINA's vehement pursuit for the implementation of effective and efficient projects and programs committed under the 10-Year MIDP, the Agency recently conducted a 3-Day meetings to track the updates of the TWGs on the committed projects for each priority program. The meeting is aimed to identify the progress of each program vis-à-vis their strategic deliverables and to outline and resolve the issues and challenges encountered in relation to its implementation.

In total, the TWGs of the MIDP programs committed a total of 126 deliverables for the Calendar Year, to which 54 of these projects are ongoing and 64 are yet to commence its formulation.





10 Year Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP)				
MIDP PROGRAMS	TOTAL NO. OF DELIVERABLES	NOT STARTED	ONGOING	ACCOMPLISHED
P1	12	7	5	-
P2	7	3	3	1
P3	7	6	1	-
P4	5	2	3	-
P5	17	1	16	-
P6	9	3	5	1
P7	14	10	4	-
P8	32	21	10	1
P9	23	11	7	5

Among the deliverables, the following are some of the major accomplishments incorporated under the MIDP:

- Development of Training Regulation for Capacity-Building of Crew and Personnel Ships Utilized for Maritime Tourism;
- Integrated Domestic Shipping Information System (IDSIS)'s Phase 1;
- The Revision of PMMRR (PSSRR) for Passenger under Program 6, Enhancement of Maritime Safety in the Philippines;
- Policy-related accomplishments such as:
  - Revised Policies on the issuance of COC, COP, & COE;
  - Revised Policies, Standards, & Guidelines in the Monitoring of Maritime Training Institutions & Assessment Center;
  - Policy, Rules & regulations on the Implementation of the Assessment Outcomes in Design & Development of the Table of Specifications (TOS), Test Items, Competency Assessment, Mapping, Practical Assessment Exercises, Institution of Feedback Mechanism & Other Necessary Provisions;
  - Policy on Schedule of Fees and Charges and Revised Quality Procedures (QPRs);
  - Standard Course Packages for First Year, Second Year, and Third Year Levels. Moreover, 7 of its remaining deliverables are still on-going

The Agency is utilizing its full capacity to pursue the strategic deliverables committed in the 10-Year MIDP for the Calendar Year 2021, however due to fortuitous factors such as scope creeps and disruptions brought about by the



COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation of some of these activities had to be put on hold.

### **THE ADMINISTRATOR'S 10 POINT AGENDA**

As earlier mentioned, the Administrator proclaimed ten (10) specific agenda of the MARINA to contribute to the Agency's short-term goals at the start of the Calendar Year.

With these particulars to serve as guide for the Offices / Service Units of the Agency, the following projects / activities / programs were accomplished by MARINA from May to August 2021.

No.	Agenda	Activities
1	Strengthen the MARINA Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approved Establishment and Operationalization of MRO II, III, and IV</li><li>• Approved MARINA Organizational Structure and Staffing Plan</li><li>• Inauguration of Satellite Office in Real, Quezon Province</li><li>• Signing of Memorandum of Agreement with the DOST-PCIEERD to boost the country's maritime industry through Science and Technology</li><li>• Updating of Philippine Maritime Strategy based on KPIs/Targets</li></ul>
2	Capacitate the Personnel and Enhance the Morale and Welfare of Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation of the Administrative Order on Enhanced Alternative Working Arrangement (AWA) under the New Normal; and</li><li>• Administrative Order on Enhanced Merits and Selection Plan</li></ul>
3	Compliance with Standard Health Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monitoring Reports on COVID-19</li><li>• Vaccination of 93% of MARINA Employees.</li><li>• Continued monitoring of Health of Employees</li><li>• Signing of Memorandum of Understanding on CONDOTEL for Seafarers</li><li>• Estimated 70,000 vaccination of Filipino Seafarers in coordination with LGUs and MARINO Party-list</li></ul>
4	Act with Urgency in Addressing the EMSA Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvement of the SAM-IS</li><li>• Continual development of the features and contents of the MISMO</li></ul>
5	Establish Systems and Processes to Ensure Eradication of Graft and Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designed and developed web-based SID/SRB Expedite Systems</li><li>• Enhancement of ePayment Application Systems</li></ul>



6	Maximize Digitalization and Speed Up Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of Web-Based Issuance of SIB, CMP, CMPID, D-COC and D-COP</li><li>• SRS Information System</li><li>• Overseas Shipping Management Information System</li><li>• Case Management System</li></ul>
7	Pursue with Vigor the nine (9) Priority Programs of the MIDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Order on the Reconstitution of MIDP Program Team Composition</li><li>• Administrative Order on the Creation of MIDP Division at the Planning and Policy Service (PPS)</li></ul>
8	Elevate the Compliance with the STCW Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Publication of relevant policies to comply with the STCW Convention.</li><li>• Surveillance Audit of Bureau Veritas for ISO 9001:2015 Certification of the STCW Office</li></ul>
9	Strengthen Policies and Procedures to Ensure Good Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Order on the Guidelines in the Formulation and Amendment of Policies</li></ul>
10	Prepare for the IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of OSS-QPR and Tracking System</li><li>• Development of IMSAS Website / Portal</li><li>• Quarterly IMSAS Progress Reports for IMSAS Council</li><li>• Designation as IMSAS Single Point of Contact</li><li>• Conduct of IMSAS Pre-Assessment Workshop</li></ul>

The table above highlights the Agency's major accomplishments for each agenda based on the Administrator's priorities. Guided by these short-term agenda, the Agency shall continue providing and implementing relevant projects and programs to thrust the maritime industry into greater heights and take tremendous strides towards attaining its strategic goals and objectives.

### **MARINA GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT**



Gender and Development (GAD) is defined as the development perspective and process that is participatory and empowering, equitable, sustainable, free from violence and respectful of human rights and actualization of human potentials.

In partnership with the advocacy of the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) the MARINA



engages ensures that all the programs that it carries out are inclusive and non-discriminatory for all genders.

In line with this, we are pleased to present the following activities to support the Agency's efforts to equalize the status and situation of women and men in society:

### **MARINA CONDUCTS MBST WITH GAD SESSION**

The MARINA, through its Manpower Development Service (MDS), conducted a Modified Basic Safety Training together with a Gender Awareness and Development session last Thursday, 21 January 2021. Participants consisted of eight (8) motormen and boat captains.

### **MARINA CONDUCTS GAD EXECUTIVE BRIEFING**

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through the Planning and Policy Service (PPS), conducted a Gender and Development (GAD) Executive Briefing last 08 July 2021.

During his opening remarks, MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) shared that GAD is a development perspective that recognizes the different roles, interests and needs of women and men. The purpose of this is to know how MARINA promotes gender equality where the employees can realize their full potential without being limited by discrimination, as well as how the Agency appropriates funds to ensure GAD budget allocation to its programs, projects, and activities.





The members of the MARINA GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) were introduced by Atty. Patrick D. Ferraro, Chief of the Policy Development and Review Division (PDRD). Invited as a Resource Speaker is the Executive Director of the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA), Mr. Donald James D. Gawe. He discussed “Mainstreaming Gender and Development in Public Sectors” which aimed to review key concepts related to gender and development; to appreciate the link between gender and development; and to define gender mainstreaming as well as to explain the rationale and identify mechanisms on how a public sector organization mainstream GAD.

GAD is about being faithful to the principle stating that development is for all. Fairness and equity demand that everyone in society, whether male or female, has the right to the same opportunities to achieve a full and satisfying life. “GAD Mainstreaming is transforming gender-blind development into gender-responsive development,” Executive Director Gawe shared.

In his closing remarks, Capt. Jeffrey P. Solon reiterates the unwavering support and commitment of MARINA to put gender equality at the heart of the maritime industry’s plans and programs.

The aforementioned briefing was attended by the MARINA GAD Focal Point System (GFPS).

### **PARTICIPATION OF MARINA IN WOMEN IN MARITIME - IMO WISTA INTERNATIONAL SURVEY 2021**

With the recommendation of the Maritime Attaché, the Maritime Industry Authority participated in the IMO WISTA International Survey with the goal to obtain and analyze data on the number of women in maritime and ocean fields and the positions they occupy. Its intention is to repeat the survey every 3 years, with the aim of supporting the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by having comparable data that will assist all stakeholders in creating programs and proposing policies that will increase the participation of women in maritime.

The data provided in the survey were gathered from MARINA and other government agencies including the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) and Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).





### **MARINA GAD PARTICIPATES IN THE DOTr SECTORAL GAD TWG MEETING**

As part of the commitment of the DOTr GAD to convene the members of GAD TWG from maritime, rail, road and aviation sector for updates on the forthcoming activities, the DOTr Central Office hosted a meeting on 26 August 2021.

Chaired by Ms. Ruby Manzo of DOTr, the group discussed the preparation for the collaboration meeting of DOTr and Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) for the 18-day Campaign to End VAW on 6 September 2021.

The DOTr Sectoral GAD TWG meeting was attended by the representatives from the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Philippine National Railways (PNR), Light Rail Transit Authority, and MARINA.

### **MARINA CONVENES 5TH IMSAS INTER-AGENCY TWG MEETING**

The MARINA convened the 5th Interagency Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) last 08 March 2021 via videoconferencing. Spearheaded by the Officer-In-Charge of the Overseas Shipping Service (OSS), Ms. Precila C. Jara, the TWG reported about the Philippine Maritime Strategy on the Implementation and Enforcement of Relevant IMO Instruments for 2020-2024 (IMSAS National Work Programme), status of corrective actions per agency during the last IMSAS Mock Audit and creation of an assessment team to further the concluded mock and verification audits and schedule of IMSAS Activities for 2021.

### **MARINA LEADS PHL DELEGATION IN ASEAN MTWG**

Upholding its commitment in boosting regional cooperation and technological exchange, the MARINA led the Philippine delegation during the 40th ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG) and 13th ASEAN-CHINA Maritime Consultation Meeting (ACMCM) held on 09 to 10 March 2021 via videoconferencing.

Headed by Ms. Precila C. Jara, Officer-In-Charge of the MARINA's Overseas Shipping Service (OSS), the Philippines shared its plans, updates, and interventions regarding port and land transport infrastructure development, capacity improvement of the ASEAN network ports, Davao-General Santos-Bitung Route Ro-Ro operation, policies/best practices on the improvements of the quality and efficiency of the Safety, Health and Environmental (SHE)





management in ports, ASEAN Green Ship Strategy, best practices on maintaining efficient port operations, as well as on crew change and seafarers' repatriation during pandemic or crisis, ASEAN-China Maritime Transport Studies, and ASEAN-India Maritime Transport Cooperation Agreement.

### **PHILIPPINES HOSTS EXTRAORDINARY HIGH-LEVEL REGIONAL MEETING ON MEPSEAS**

Bringing together the high-level officials of the maritime administrations of the participating International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member States in the ASEAN region and representatives of the Marine Environment Protection of the Southeast Asian Seas (MEPSEAS) Project's strategic partners, the Philippines, through the MARINA, hosted the Extraordinary High-Level Regional Meeting (EHLRM) on MEPSEAS on 17 March 2021 via video conferencing.

The Philippines as one of the Lead Partnering Countries (LPC) to the MEPSEAS Project, and MARINA being its National Focal Point (NFP), in coordination with IMO, conducted the EHLRM to review the changes in operational modes imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the next steps and activities to be undertaken in Year 4 of the said project. It also aims to focus on compliance monitoring and enforcement (CME) of the high priority IMO conventions selected by the partnering beneficiary countries.

### **FILIPINO SEAFARERS NOW INCLUDED IN PRIORITY LIST IN THE NAT'L COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM**

Filipino seafarers get a closer shot at getting vaccines against COVID-19 as the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) approves the recommendation of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to include them in the priority recipients listed in the government's national vaccination rollout.

From falling under B3 (Other essential workers) or B5 (Overseas Filipino Workers) in the Vaccination Priority Framework, the Inter-Agency Working Group has requested for the reclassification of Filipino seafarers to A4 (Frontline personnel in essential sectors, including uniformed personnel and those in working sectors identified by the IATF as essential during ECQ). This makes seafarers move at the top 4 priority groups to be vaccinated.



**DOTR MARITIME SECTOR FACILITATES ARRIVAL OF NEARLY 1,000  
REPATRIATED FILIPINO CREW MEMBERS ABOARD NORWEIGAN  
VESSEL; ASSURES THEM ASSISTANCE FROM PH GOVERNMENT**

The maritime sector of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), consisting of the MARINA, Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), and the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), has facilitated the arrival of approximately 1000 Filipino crew members aboard MV “Norwegian Encore” at the Port of Manila last 11 April 2021.

**DOTR MARITIME SECTOR ASSISTS 1,078 DISEMBARKING SEAFARERS  
OF NORWEIGAN VESSEL**

The maritime sector of the Department of Transportation, consisting of the MARINA, PPA, and PCG, together with the members of the One-Stop Shop (OSS) Port of Manila has assisted the disembarkation of the 1,078 repatriated crew members of MV “Norwegian Encore”. The MV “Norwegian Encore”, which is owned by the Norwegian Cruise Line, arrived in the country on 11 April 2021, and ferried a total of 1,078 repatriated seafarers – composed of 1,058 Filipino and 20 foreign crew members.

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**END OF REPORT**