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MARINA, PHILIPPINE NAVY PURSUE JOINT EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN SHIPYARD CAPABILITIES

Engr. Ramon C. Hernandez, Director of the MARINA's Shipyards Regulation Service and Maritime Safety Service, actively leads the MARINA team during the a tour of its shipyard facility at the Sangley Point Naval Base in Cavite City, Cavite, which is part of the two-day joint orientation on shipyard policies.

As part of their cooperation, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) and the Philippine Navy (PN) conducted a two-day joint orientation on shipyard policies on a virtual and face-to-face arrangements on 11 and 12 November 2021.

On the first day of the orientation, MARINA personnel presented, via videoconferencing, the MARINA's rules and regulations on the registration and licensing of shipbuilders as well as boatbuilders; ship safety policies; and marine environment policies and standards.

"We are pleased that we are now taking further steps for the materialization of our goals and objectives under the partnership between the MARINA and the

Continue on page 2...

INSIDE STORIES

MARINA, NBI SIGN AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN JOINT CAMPAIGN VS. GRAFT, CORRUPTION

EMPEDRAD STRENGTHENS ANEW MARINA ORG WORKFORCE; APPOINTS 62 PERSONNEL FOR PLANTILLA POSITIONS

MARINA HOSTS WEBINAR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; UPHOLDS COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS ALL FORMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN MARITIME INDUSTRY

MARINA HOLDS ORIENTATION FOR NEW INDUSTRY PARTNER AFAB

MARINA HOLDS BLESSING OF NEW MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV - PALAWAN EXTENSION OFFICE

MARINA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH LGUS OF CALBAYOG, MAASIN

MARINA LAUNCHES ITS COMPETENCY REVIEWER PORTAL (CRP)

NEW NORMAL PROTOCOLS: LET US KEEP EVERYONE SAFE AND HEALTHY



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MARINA, PHILIPPINE NAVY PURSUE JOINT EFFORTS...

Philippine Navy," Engr. Ramon C. Hernandez, Director of the MARINA's Shipyards Regulation Service and Maritime Safety Service said in his welcome remarks.

"This is certainly a very promising partnership. For the MARINA, we are absolutely thrilled and eager to broaden our technical knowledge and capability—from only merchant vessels to naval vessels—of course with the kind assistance and cooperation of the Philippine Navy," Engr. Hernandez added.

Meanwhile, the PN gave MARINA personnel a tour of its shipyard facility at the Sangley Point Naval Base in Cavite City, Cavite on the second day of the orientation. PN officers graciously accommodated the MARINA and introduced its visiting personnel to the various facilities of its yard such as the machine shop, steel shop, and the floating dock. MARINA personnel were also welcomed aboard BRP Artemio Ricarte PS37, dubbed the "Ang Barkong Magaling," to give them a detailed view of the technical features and particulars of naval vessels.



In a pre-recorded video message, MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A. Empedrad AFP (Ret) recounted his meaningful years of service as a retired naval officer and a former flag officer-in-command of the Philippine Navy.

"For 37 years, I served the Filipino people—our maritime nation—as a Navy officer. There are lots of dreams that we envision in our Navy, and one of which is to strengthen the capability of our naval shipyard to be able to build brand new war ships for the Philippine Navy. That has not come to reality until today," Administrator Empedrad said.

Administrator Empedrad also shared that he saw "the enormous opportunity that the PN can take

Continue on page 3...

MARINA, PHILIPPINE NAVY PURSUE JOINT EFFORTS...

advantage of" when he assumed post as MARINA administrator, citing the skill and expertise of the naval architects and engineers of the MARINA. In addition, Administrator Empedrad also conveyed his optimism that the PN would be able to build its own "modern ships" as a result of the MARINA-PN partnership.

PN Flag Officer-in-Command Vice Admiral Adeluis S Bordado also delivered a pre-recorded video message to MARINA and PN during the orientation.

Emphasizing the importance of this cooperation in securing the Philippine maritime territory, Vice Admiral Bordado stated, "This two-day activity aims to optimize our agreement last May, but it is also symbolic of our intention to maximize our partnership in a bid to better execute our national security and defense strategies and our mandate."

The orientation is part of the MARINA-PN memorandum of agreement signed on 18 May 2021. This partnership aims to equip the technical personnel of the MARINA and PN with the necessary knowledge and proficiencies for the design, construction, and inspection and survey of naval ships and floating assets.

MARINA, NBI SIGN AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN JOINT CAMPAIGN VS. GRAFT, CORRUPTION



The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) forged a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) to strengthen their joint campaign against graft and corruption in the maritime industry.

The MOA, signed by MARINA Administrator VADM Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) and NBI Officer-in-Charge Director Eric B. Distor, aims to address the

various complaints received by MARINA involving proliferation of fraudulent documents and certificates by fixers.

Through this agreement, MARINA, as a national government agency attached to Department of Transportation (DOTr), which is mandated to integrate the development, promotion, and regulation of the Philippine maritime industry; and NBI, a premier investigative agency under the Department of Justice (DOJ) undertaking investigations of crimes and other offenses against the law of the country, will be in collaboration in investigating activities involving the procurement, issuance, and/or submission of documents and/or certificates through fraud, falsification, with assistance of "fixers" or persons without authority from the MARINA.

The Agreement, signed in the presence of MARINA-STCWO Executive Director VADM Rene V. Medina AFP (Ret) and NBI-Legal Office Chief of Staff Atty. Giselle O. Garcia-Dumlao took effect last 11 November 2021.

The strategic institutional partnership between MARINA and NBI is part of the MARINA Administrator's 10-Point Agenda particularly eradicating corruption within the organization.

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EMPEDRAD STRENGTHENS ANEW MARINA ORG WORKFORCE; APPOINTS 62 PERSONNEL FOR PLANTILLA POSITIONS



MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), together with MARINA Deputy Administrator for Planning Atty. Jean Ver P. Pia and MARINA-STCWO Executive Director VADM Rene V. Medina AFP (Ret), administers the mass oath-taking of the new appointees.

Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Administrator Robert Empedrad has once again strengthened the MARINA's organizational work force by appointing 62 new MARINA officers and personnel on 09 November 2021, at the MARINA Central Office.

Conducted both through virtual and face-to-face, Administrator Empedrad administered the mass oath-taking of the new appointees, which was facilitated by the Human Resources Development Division (HRMDD) of the Management, Financial and Administrative Service (MFAS) under the leadership of Director Nenita Atienza.

The 62 plantilla positions were composed of: one (1) Chief Maritime Industry Development Specialist; one (1) Chief Administrative Officer; two (2) Maritime Education and Training Standards Supervisor (Engine); one (1) Maritime Education and Training Standards Supervisor (Deck); one (1) Supervising Administrative Officer (HRMO IV); one (1) Supervising Administrative Officer (Budget Officer IV); eight (8) Senior Maritime Industry Development Specialist; one (1) Senior Shipbuilding Specialist; two (2) Planning Officer III; two (2) Engineer III; one (1) Attorney II; one (1) Information Technology Officer II; one (1) Information Technology Officer I; five (5) Maritime Industry Development Specialist II; four (4) Shipping Operations Specialist II; two (2) Shipbuilding Specialist II; eleven (11) Maritime Industry

Development Specialist I; one (1) Accountant I; one (1) Administrative Officer V; one (1) Administrative Officer IV (HRMO II); one (1) Administrative Officer IV (HRMO II); three (3) Administrative Assistant III; two (2) Administrative Assistant II; three (3) Administrative Assistant I; three (3) Administrative Aide VI; and one (1) Administrative Aide IV (Driver II).

With the assumption of the newly appointed personnel, MARINA will be able to deliver its frontline services faster, more conveniently, and more efficiently to maritime stakeholders through the assumption of the said employees.

During his opening remarks, Administrator Empedrad cited five key points for the recently promoted MARINA personnel to help them find inspiration and encouragement as they assume their new positions.

According to Administrator Empedrad, all of these MARINA personnel were promoted because of God's providence, inspiration from love ones, mentors and peers, and also a result of a job well done or excellent performance. He also emphasized that their promotion entails more responsibility and more display of hard work while maintaining the value of humility.



New appointees take their oath at the MARINA Central Office.

MARINA HOSTS WEBINAR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; UPHOLDS COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS ALL FORMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN MARITIME INDUSTRY

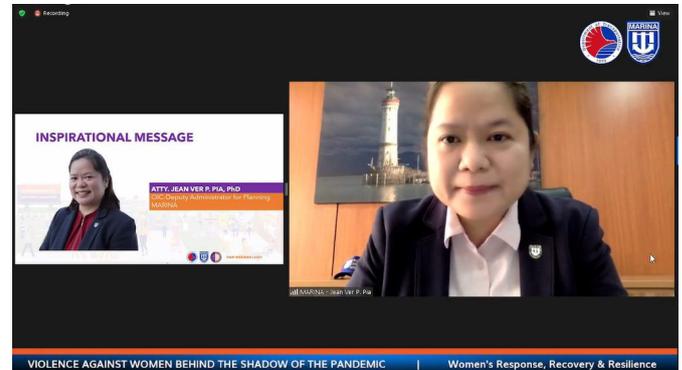
As part of the Agency's Gender and Development (GAD) efforts, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through its Planning and Policy Service (PPS), hosted a webinar in celebration of the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women entitled "Violence Against Women (VAW) Behind the Shadow of the Pandemic: Women's Response, Recovery & Resilience" on 25 November 2021.

As violence against women appears to be one of the most widespread violations of human rights with long term devastating effects on the lives of women, their communities and wider society, the MARINA upholds its commitment to put gender equality at the heart of the industry's plans and programs. The Agency also supports the Philippine government's goal of protecting the human rights, particularly for women and girls, by maintaining the country's commitment to address all forms of gender-based violence as enshrined in the 1987 Constitution.



In his welcoming remarks, Planning and Policy Service (PPS) OIC-Director Mr. Luisito U. Delos Santos acknowledges the participation of several MARINA officials and personnel, and the presence of the resource speakers.

OIC-Director Delos Santos said that this day, with this event, is the day of learning and renewing the commitment to fight for women's rights and violence – especially with the help of the topics discussed, particularly the relevant provisions of RA 11313 Safe Spaces Act, the impact of COVID-19 to women in maritime, as well as the incidents of domestic violence in the onslaught of the pandemic.



MARINA OIC-Deputy Administrator for Planning Atty. Jean Ver P. Pia emphasized in her inspirational message that it is important to remember that trauma is not a competition of who has it worse or better. "All abuse is abuse, and all trauma is trauma," she highlighted.

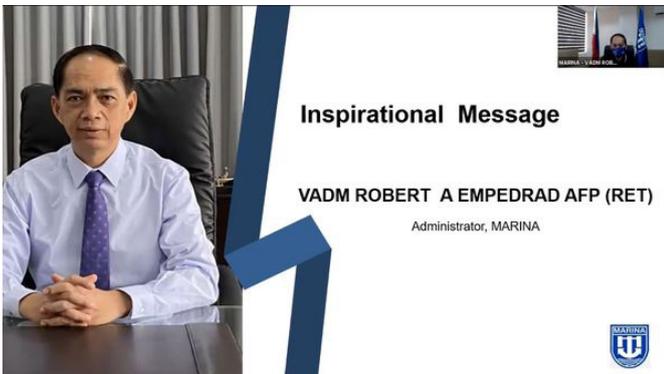
"Survivors of violence are speaking out more than ever before, and everyone has a role to play to ensure that they (women) can have justice. Don't say why didn't she leave. Do say, we hear you, we believe you, we stand with you. Let us empower our women in the maritime industry, in the public sector and even in each and every homes," Atty. Pia added.

As for the important topics discussed, Independent GAD specialist Ms. Ronalyn V. Hufancia tackled the topic "A Glimpse on the Relevant Provisions of RA 11313: Safe Spaces Act (Bawal Bastos Act)." WIMA Asia/WIMAPHIL President Ms. Merle Jimenez-San Pedro also discussed "Through Her Lens: The Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Maritime," while Coalition Against Trafficking in Women Executive Director Ms. Jean Enriquez talked about the "Incidents of Domestic Violence during the COVID-19 pandemic." Also present to speak about the perspective from the domestic shipping, and women and perils of COVID-19 was WIMAPHIL Vice President Ms. Mary Ann Pastrana.

Lastly, MARINA Management, Administrative and Financial Service (MFAS) Director Ms. Nenita S. Atienza delivered her closing remarks, stating that the webinar was very timely as it showcased women's response, recovery and resilience against violence in the shadow of the pandemic.

MARINA HOLDS ORIENTATION FOR NEW INDUSTRY PARTNER AFAB

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), held an orientation for its new industry partner, the Authority for the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB) on 10 November 2021. The activity, with the title "Orientation for the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan," is part of the initial efforts of the two agencies to officially establish their partnership.



MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) delivers his inspirational message, saying that with the FAB's strategic location and its proximity to the nation's capital, the MARINA see it as an ideal site for lucrative trade activities in various sectors

Administrator Empedrad also proudly shared that there are three shipyards located at the Freeport Area of Bataan. These shipyards, which produce different types of ships and cater to dry-docking and repair needs, are all great contributors to the shipbuilding and ship repair (SBSR) market.

"As the government regulating body, we first have to fully understand the needs of as well as the trends in the industry that is of our concern. And we, the MARINA and the AFAB, must have a full grasp of our partners' mandates and functions so that we can identify where and how we can collaborate for the betterment of our respective industries," Administrator Empedrad added.

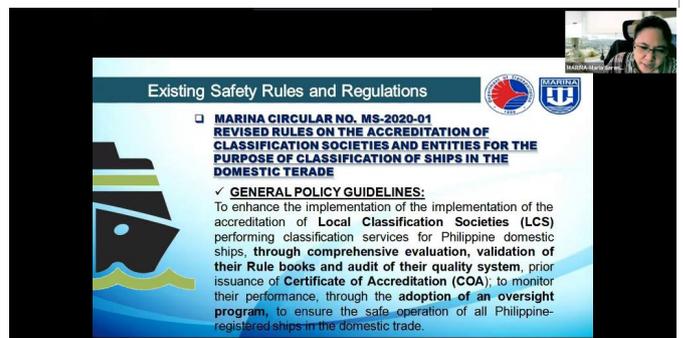
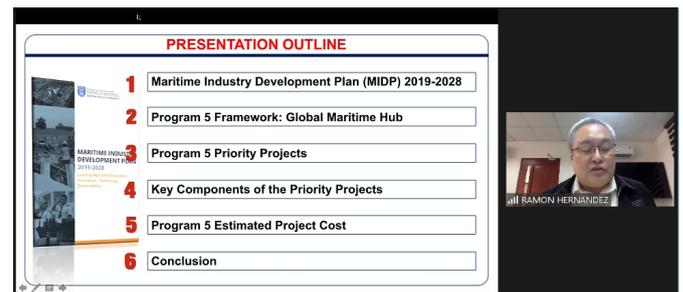
AFAB Administrator Engr. Emmanuel D. Pineda also graced the orientation. Engr. Pineda conveyed his hopes that the MARINA-AFAB partnership would prosper, citing goals to generate more jobs in the Central Luzon area. Data from the Philippine

Statistics Authority reported that there were around 8 million individuals who were members of Bataan's active working population as of April 2021.



AFAB Administrator Engr. Emmanuel D. Pineda also delivers his inspirational message during the orientation.

The MARINA-AFAB cooperation aims to encourage more investment opportunities for the SBSR sector in the Freeport Area of Bataan. This new partnership would be instrumental to the realization of the Program 5 of the MIDP, which aims to transform the Philippines into a global maritime hub by upgrading and expanding the facilities as well as the capability of Philippine shipyards.



Presentations during the orientation are about the Maritime Industry Development Program (MIDP) 2019-2018, and the MARINA's policies on the registration on licensing of shipyards; vessel construction, conversion, alteration, and repair; vessel safety; and the marine environment. The MARINA also provided updates on the IMO Member State Audit Scheme.

MARINA HOLDS BLESSING OF NEW MARINA REGIONAL OFFICE IV - PALAWAN EXTENSION OFFICE



The new MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4) - Palawan Extension Office in 114 Mabini St., Brgy. Maunlad, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) held a virtual blessing of the new extension office of MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4) in Palawan on 12 November 2021.

Graced by MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), the program started with the blessing of the new Office at 114 Mabini St., Brgy. Maunlad, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan followed by a welcoming remarks from MRO 4 Regional Director Engr. Emmanuel B. Carpio.

Afterwards, a brief audio-visual presentation, which highlighted the development of the new office, was presented.



MARINA Administrator Vice Admiral Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) during the virtual blessing of the new MARINA Regional Office IV (MRO 4) - Palawan Extension Office.

In his speech, Administrator Empedrad applauded this initiative of MRO 4 as this will speed up the processing of applications which will greatly benefit the tourism industry in the area.

This initiative is under Engr. Carpio's plans and program of further expanding the public service which exemplifies VADM Empedrad's 10-Point Agenda for the regional offices.

MARINA ISSUES NEW FORMATS OF COC, COP



The said change in format, which took effect on 09 November 2021, has been already communicated with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) last 04 November 2021, with a request that the same be likewise disseminated to all IMO member states, Intergovernmental Organizations, and Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status.

Meanwhile, here's the process on how to verify the said certificates. Please see the graphics below.

To verify the authenticity if the said certificates, please be guided with the following:

1. Scan the QR code using a mobile phone. It will prompt you to the MISMO website
2. Select under Verification Type, **COP/COC/COE (MISMO ISSUED)** and input the **Serial Number (ex. SN 61234567)** located at the bottom left portion of the Certificate, then it will show the details of the certificate.
3. If the details of the certificate/s will not appear, either return the same to MARINA and relay the information to the Releasing Personnel; **OR** call the Certification Division, STCW Office, Manila at **(632) 85365175**; **OR** send a scanned copy of the said Certificate/s to **stcw_cert@marina.gov.ph**

MARINA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH LGUs OF CALBAYOG, MAASIN

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), through its Regional Office 8, held a signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Contract of Usufruct with the Local Government Units (LGU) of Calbayog City and Maasin City on 24 November 2021.



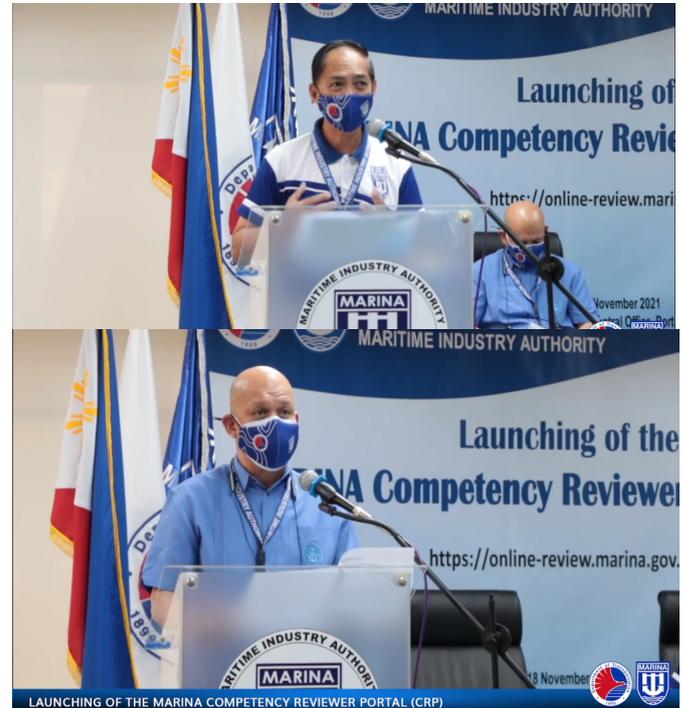
Representing MARINA is Administrator VADM Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret), who is attended by Engr. Nanette Z. Villamor-Dinopol, MARINA Deputy for Administrator for Operations, and assisted by MRO 8 Regional Director Annabell P. Lagas.

Present during the signing of MOA with the LGU of Calbayog City was Mayor Diego P. Rivera. The contract features a 25-year use of land in Brgy. Aguit-itan, Calbayog City, Samar for the upcoming MARINA Calbayog Extension Office.

Moreover, the MOA signing with the LGU of Maasin, represented by Mayor Nacional V. Mercado, was attended by Atty. Romeo Geniston, City Administrator. The contract features a 25-year use of a land in Brgy. Combado, Maasin City, Southern Leyte where the MARINA Maasin Extension Office will soon arise.

MARINA is grateful for the support coming from the aforementioned LGUs in the realization of its ambition for expansion and wider service coverage, all for the benefit of its clients and other maritime stakeholders.

MARINA LAUNCHES ITS COMPETENCY REVIEWER PORTAL (CRP)



MARINA Administrator VADM Robert A Empedrad AFP (Ret) and MARINA-STCWO Executive Director Vice Admiral Rene V Medina AFP (Ret) grace the launching of the MARINA Competency Reviewer Portal (CRP), both stating the importance of the said portal for the Filipino seafarers.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) recently launched its MARINA Competency Reviewer Portal (CRP) for aspiring candidates to become marine officers on 18 November 2021, at the MARINA Central Office.

This online review platform is dedicated by MARINA to all seafarers who are qualified to take the theoretical examination for Merchant Marine Officers.

With this platform, Filipino seafarers can effortlessly review by themselves for their theoretical examinations without having the need to enroll in review centers.

More importantly, seafarers don't need to spend thousands of pesos as this platform helps them review and prepare for exams at the comfort of their homes and also even while they're onboard. The CRP will greatly benefit Filipino seafarers by upskilling and enhancing their knowledge while saving money and time.