



MARINA



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# Newsletter

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MARINA Strengthens Communications Team with Digital Media Workshop



A personnel from MARINA regional office checks documents of a vessel as the agency implements heightened alert status in time for the BSKE and Undas 2023.

## PH supports Maritime Cooperation; donates \$30,000 to the IMO



Maritime Attache Atty. Jean Ver Pia during the 73rd Session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee.

The Philippines has reaffirmed its commitment to the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) by contributing \$30,000. The donation was formalized through a Letter of Agreement between the IMO and the Philippines and was presented by His Excellency Teodoro

L. Locsin Jr., the Philippine Ambassador to the United Kingdom and the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the IMO.

During the 73rd Session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee (TC73) in London from 16 to 19 October 2023, Atty Jean Ver P. Pia, Maritime Attache and Member of the Philippine delegation, announced the contribution. She emphasized the Philippines' role in sustaining the IMO's technical cooperation programs and explained that the funds would support capacity development activities in areas like maritime safety, maritime security, anti-piracy workshops, and marine pollution control for technical personnel in the Philippines and other IMO Member States.

The Philippines also expressed gratitude to the Republic of Korea for its SMART SEA Project and inclusion of Filipino cadets in the Global On-Board

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## EDITORIAL BOARD >

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## PH SUPPORTS MARITIME COOPERATION WITH...

Training Program, acknowledging the efforts of the People's Republic of China in developing a draft Training Manual on Domestic Ferry Safety, and the collaborative initiatives by the IMO Secretariat, World Maritime University (WMU), and International Association of Maritime Universities (IAMU) for innovative learning systems and peer-assisted evaluation schemes.

The country also assured the IMO that it would continue hosting the

Regional Presence Scheme in East Asia and supporting Atty. Josephine Marie Uranza, the IMO Regional Coordinator, in meeting the technical assistance needs of the region.

Following the recent completion of the IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) in October 2023, the Philippines works on targeted capacity-building to address identified gaps through the ITCP.

The IMO is expected to develop an integrated ITCP for 2024-2025 based on Consolidated Audit Summary Reports (CASRs).

## PH MARINA shares Green Shipping initiatives at ASEAN Meeting



*Delegates around the globe pose for a group photo during the 45th MTWG Meeting in Viet Nam.*

During the 45th ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG) Meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, the Philippines, represented by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), demonstrated its commitment to eco-friendly shipping in the ASEAN Region.

Led by Ms. Sonia B. Malaluan, Deputy Administrator for Planning at

MARINA, the Philippine delegation discussed their efforts in green shipping and decarbonization. Despite facing challenges, the Philippines has drafted a National Strategy and Action Plan in line with the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Revised Strategy for Reducing GHG Emissions from Ships.

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## EDITORIAL POLICY >

The MARINA Newsletter is published monthly by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA).

Write-ups or opinions expressed in this

publication are exclusively and solely by the writers and they do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Agency on relevant issues.

The Editorial Board welcomes contributions. Interested officials and employees are invited to submit their articles through email address [pps@marina.gov.ph](mailto:pps@marina.gov.ph).

Members of the Editorial Board assume full responsibility for all articles and contributions published in this Newsletter.



## PH MARINA SHARES GREEN SHIPPING...

The Deputy Administrator emphasized the comprehensiveness of the ASEAN Green Ship Strategy and expressed interest in technical assistance, data sharing, analysis results, and the decarbonization roadmap's development.

The Philippines also highlighted their policies for fuel economy, cleaner fuels, and electric vehicles. They are exploring the use of hydrogen in power generation and maritime transport, as well as expanding LNG facilities for a transition to maritime fuel.

Additionally, the Philippines provided updates on the PORTEC Project, focusing on port and ballast water baselines using ecological, microbiological, and eDNA approaches. The project includes capacity building activities and water sampling in the Port of Manila.

The Philippines also reported on capacity improvements in ASEAN network ports, support for the Davao-General Santos-Bitung RO-RO route, safety and environmental management in Philippine ports, and their involvement in IMO-related activities. The Philippine delegation included representatives from the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and Philippine Ports Authority (PPA).

## MARINA enhances project management skills for MIDP 2028



Participants of the Project Development and Management Training discuss their outputs during the three-day workshop.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) is actively advancing its industry plans and projects. To support this, MARINA recently organized a three-day Project Development and Management training from 16 to 20 October 2023.

This training involved 45 MARINA Central Office personnel, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to manage and execute projects and activities. This preparation aligns with the country's commitment to the updated Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) 2028.

The workshop also focused on empowering the Project Management Team (PMT) to effectively handle project procedures, covering initiation, planning,

execution, regulation, evaluation, and closure.

Luisito Delos Santos, Director of the Planning and Policy Service (PPS), emphasized the significance of this training, especially with the ongoing implementation of the MIDP 2028. He stated, "MARINA needs to capacitate the PMT to fulfill their roles as the lead agency for the country's maritime industry."

Delos Santos added, "Through this training, we aim to enhance the capabilities of our Project Management Team, preparing them for successful project development and implementation."

The three-day training was conducted by the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP).



# PH undergoes IMSAS; ensures full compliance with IMO instruments



Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista together with officials of the Philippine Maritime Industry, other government agencies and three IMO state auditors are all smiles before the IMSAS Opening Meeting held in Manila.

MANILA – In pursuit of complying with its international commitments leading to a progressive maritime administration, the Philippines is set to undergo a mandatory audit under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization - IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) from 02 to 09 October 2023, to determine the country's full and effective implementation and enforcement of the mandatory IMO instruments to which it is a Party.

Being a longstanding member of the IMO since 1964, the Philippines has consistently ratified 28 IMO Instruments, with ongoing efforts to ratify more to improve its maritime industry. The IMSAS audit, conducted at regular intervals not exceeding seven years, highlights the Philippines' commitment to international maritime standards.

To streamline collaboration among government departments and agencies involved in maritime matters, two Executive Orders have been issued: Executive Order No. 159, series of 2021, and Executive Order No. 84, series of 2019.

Various government entities, including the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Cebu Port Authority (CPA), National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA), Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical & Astronomical Services (PAGASA), and National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), have actively prepared for this audit.

As a maritime nation with a proactive maritime administration, the Philippines is dedicated to implementing and enforcing international laws, regulations, and recommendations in accordance with IMO instruments. The country commits to maintaining a robust system to uphold its responsibilities as a flag, port, and coastal state, ensuring the highest standards of maritime safety and environmental protection.





# IORIS Meeting Strengthens Indo-Pacific Region Maritime Security Collaboration



Delegates from the Indo-Pacific Region during the 1st IORIS Steering Committee Board and Working Group Meeting in Kenya.

From 16 to 18 October 2023, the 1st IORIS Steering Committee Board and Working Group Meeting took place in Nairobi, Kenya. The event brought together representatives from various government agencies and international partners, totaling 41 agencies from the Indo-Pacific region.

Upon the request of EU-CRIMARIO, the Philippines played an active role in the Policy Board, Legal, Technical, and Operational Working Groups. Engr. Ronaldo P. Bandalaria, Director of the Enforcement Service at the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), led the Philippine delegation, which included representatives from the National Coast Watch Center (NCWC), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

(BFAR).

Amb. Henriette Gieger, Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Kenya, stressed the EU's support for funding projects and highlighted member states' crucial role in maximizing the IORIS platform's significance for maritime security.

The three-day steering committee conference concluded successfully, with plans to reconvene in Sri Lanka in March 2024, demonstrating a positive outlook for the IORIS platform's interoperability.

The EU-CRIMARIO is scheduled to visit the Philippines from 28 November to 01 December 2023, for inter-agency simulation exercises.

## MARINA advances regulatory reforms with capacity building workshop



Representatives from various service units, and regional offices of MARINA during the three-day capacity building workshop on Regulatory Impact Assessment.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) continues its drive for regulatory reforms in the maritime sector through a three-day capacity building workshop. This event, held from 11 to 13 October 2023, saw over 60 personnel engaged in policy drafting from various MARINA offices, including Regional Offices.

In collaboration with the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA), the workshop focused on Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA), emphasizing the importance of evaluating the quality of existing policies and proposed options, whether regulatory or non-regulatory, using analytical tools. This ensures that government agencies consider all benefits and

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## MARINA ADVANCES REGULATORY REFORMS...

costs of regulations, selecting policies that best serve the public.

ARTA discussed the National Policy on Regulatory Management System (NPRMS), requiring RIA for all policies crafted by government agencies and local units. The process involves stages like Annual Regulatory Plans (ARP), Regulatory Notification Forms (RNF), Preliminary Impact Statements (PIS), Regulatory Impact Statements (RIS), and Post-Implementation Reviews (PIR) for all policies.

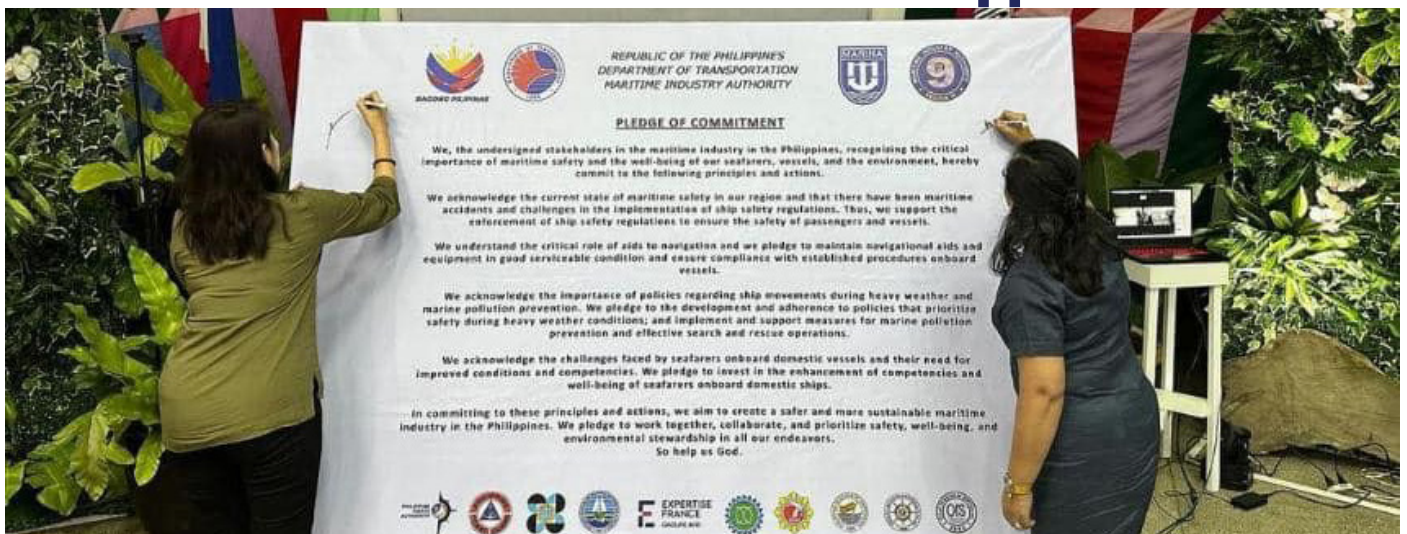
MARINA shared its progress in regulatory reforms, focusing on streamlining processes, automating services, and consolidating existing policies. It also delved into essential tools for RIA, including Root Cause Analysis and Analytical Tools, and introduced various lenses for RIA, such as Competition Impact Assessment, Gender and Social Inclusion Impact Assessment, Environmental Assessment, and Disaster Risk Impact Assessment.

Participants reviewed and drafted Regulatory Impact Statements (RIS) for relevant MARINA Circulars recommended for full RIA. The policies in the Agency's Annual Regulatory Plan for 2023 include revisions to guidelines on accreditation of domestic shipping operators, rules on special permits for Philippine-registered ships, seafarers' identification book issuance, and various safety and licensing regulations.



MARINA's commitment to data-driven policy formulation ensures regulatory efficiency and provides maritime industry stakeholders with confidence that Memorandum Circulars have undergone rigorous RIA processes.

## MARINA's Maritime Safety Pre-Summits promote safer, cleaner seas across the Philippines



MARINA Directors pen their signatures to signify their commitment to promote safer, and cleaner seas across the country.

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) is on a mission to enhance maritime safety and environmental responsibility across the Philippines. A series of Pre-Summits have recently taken place in

different regions, gathering key players to address crucial concerns and promote safer, cleaner seas.

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## MARINA'S MARITIME SAFETY PRE-SUMMITS PROMOTE...



**Batangas City Pre-Summit**

**Zamboanga City Pre-Summit:**

The 2nd Maritime Pre-Summit, held in Batangas City on 12 to 13 October 2023, set the stage for the upcoming Maritime Safety Summit on 15 November 2023, in Metro Manila. With the theme “Ligtas na Paglalayag at Malinis na Karagatan Para sa Bagong Pilipinas” (Safe Voyages and Clean Seas for a New Philippines), the event delved into pressing maritime safety and environmental issues.

The two-day Pre-Summit featured presentations from organizations such as MARINA, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), and more. Discussions included safety improvements for passenger ships, tankers, and motorbancas. Roundtable talks focused on topics like life-saving appliances, firefighting systems, and the welfare of domestic seafarers.

The Pre-Summit series concluded in Zamboanga City on 26 to 27 October 2023. Hosted by MARINA Regional Office 9, this gathering aimed to address significant issues related to maritime safety and environmental concerns in Mindanao.

The event featured presentations from various maritime stakeholders, highlighting trends and safety analysis in Philippine waters. Group discussions covered topics such as ship safety, company safety management, infrastructure, and the welfare of domestic seafarers.

The agency remains committed to adopting a data-driven approach to policy formulation, ensuring regulatory efficiency and the confidence of maritime industry stakeholders in the Memorandum Circulars issued.

## MARINA's Annual Lawyers' Convention: Strengthening Maritime Policies



*The MARINA Administrator, and Deputy Administrator band with other lawyers of the Agency during its Annual Lawyers' Convention.*

In a bid to bolster its policies, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) recently convened legal experts, professionals, and technical personnel for the annual Lawyers' Convention from 10 to 12 October 2023. This gathering served as a platform for knowledge exchange and professional networking, keeping MARINA's legal team informed about the latest developments in the field.

Under the overarching theme, “Strengthening Maritime Policies,” the convention featured discussions on various topics. These included the ‘Rules of Practice and Procedure in Administrative Investigation,’ offering insights into addressing maritime violations and the legal procedures for handling cases at MARINA.

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Additionally, the 'Ship Registry Bill' was explored, aiming to modernize ship registration and potentially streamline the process in the Philippines.

The convention also delved into broader legal matters with the 'Comprehensive Maritime Bill,' indicating significant changes in MARINA's functions. Attendees received updates on the 'West Philippine Sea,' ensuring they were well-informed about

developments in this crucial maritime region.

A separate discussion focused on the 'Exclusion of Tugs and Barges from CPC Application,' exploring potential regulatory changes related to these specific types of vessels.

Furthermore, MARINA's commitment to aligning with international standards was evident through updates on priority bills such as the 'International Maritime Instruments Domestication Act of the Philippines,' 'Philippine Ship Registry System Act,' and 'Shipbuilding Development Act of 2022.'

The convention saw participation from MARINA's management, directors, maritime attaché, along with representatives from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the University of the Philippines. It provided a valuable platform for legal experts to share insights and strengthen maritime policies.

## **MARINA continues to champion safe navigation; takes part in the MAIIFA30 meeting in IMO**



*Participants of the Marine Accident Investigators' International Forum 30 held in London.*

The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) remains committed to enhancing sea navigation safety as it participates in the Marine Accident Investigators' International Forum 30 (MAIIF30) meeting at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) from 09 to 13 October 2023.

The MARINA, represented by Enforcement Service Director Ronaldo Bandalaria, signifies the agency's international commitment to the IMO as a flag administration of the Philippines. It is also aligned with the implementation of the updated Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) 2028 aiming for a safer and more secure maritime industry.

During the forum, discussions evolved around important topics such as the reflections on the recent

IMSAS audits, safety investigation presentations, human element and its impact on marine casualties, review of MAIIF charter, and future plans of MAIIF. The MARINA maintains its membership to this international organization to foster camaraderie with other Member States and to adopt their best practices in the conduct of marine safety investigations.

MAIIF is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of maritime safety and to the prevention of marine pollution through the exchange of ideas, experiences and information acquired in marine accident investigation. Its primary purpose is to promote and improve marine accident investigation, and to foster international cooperation and communication between marine accident investigators.



# MARINA strengthens Communications Team with Digital Media Workshop



Deputy Administrator for Operations, and Planning Policy Service Director pose for a photo alongside with participants of the Digital Communications Workshop and resource speaker Yashika Torib of Manila Times.

In an effort to ensure effective communication with the maritime industry, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has strengthened its communication teams by hosting its first Digital Media and Strategic Communications Workshop from 17- to 19 October 2023.

The workshop aims to enhance the skills of MARINA personnel in crafting communication campaigns, writing press releases or short-form content for social media, and creating visual materials that support the agency's policies and projects. It also seeks to clarify the processes and plans for the sector, especially the implementation of the updated Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) 2028 to stakeholders.

According to the Deputy Administrator for Operations Engr. Nannette Villamor-Dinopol, the success of the MIDP 2028's implementation relies on effective communication. She emphasized that "our

contributions will not only enhance MARINA but also empower us to shape the future of the maritime industry, a future that aligns with the aspirations of the MIDP 2028."

Meanwhile, Luisito Delos Santos, Director of the Planning and Policy Service-Public Affairs and Digital Media Office (PPS-PADMO), believes that the workshop will not only benefit MARINA but the entire maritime sector, improving communication and coordination between MARINA and sectors connected to the maritime industry.

Several guest speakers, including maritime journalist Yashika Torib, filmmaker and video editor Adrian Arcega, award-winning international photographer Architect Jun Pagalilauan, political and social media influencer Mark Lopez, and graphic artist Paul Abejero, shared their insights during the workshop. This initiative was organized by MARINA's Public Affairs and Digital Media Office.

## MARINA Eases Shipping Schedules Ahead of BSKE, Undas 2023

In preparation for the upcoming "Synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Election and Undas 2023," the MARINA Regional Office 4 (MRO4) has taken steps to adjust shipping schedules within its jurisdiction. This decision is in anticipation of the expected increase in passengers and cargo during this period, and to provide safe, reliable, and convenient transportation for passengers and rolling cargoes while meeting the heightened demand. The adjusted schedules follow the guidelines outlined in MARINA Advisory No. 2015-10, which offers "Guidelines during Emergency, Holiday Season, and Special Occasion."

Some key aspects of this directive include

allowing ships to depart as soon as passenger and cargo limits are reached, ensuring swift returns to busy ports, increasing the frequency of sailings, and adhering to a "First Come, First Served" policy for passengers and cargoes.

In cases where these measures are not enough to address congestion or meet demand, other shipping companies or operators may be authorized to deploy their vessels to assist in swiftly resolving emergency situations, congestion, or similar circumstances. The directive is effective from 27 October 2023, until 06 November 2023, or until shipping operations on the affected routes return to their regular schedules, whichever comes first.

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# MARINA GALLERY



MARINA hosts World Maritime University delegation for the Field Study Program Advancing Maritime Law and Policy.



## MARINA GALLERY



**MARINA and its Regional Offices implement heightened alert status for OPLAN Barangay, Sangguniang Kabataan Elections and Undas 2023**





# MARINA GALLERY



Port of Tacloban  
November 1, 2023

Port of Ormoc City  
November 1, 2023

MARINA and its Regional Offices implement heightened alert status for OPLAN Barangay, Sangguniang Kabataan Elections and Undas 2023



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