



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

“191ST MARITIME FORUM”

WELCOME REMARKS

23 July 2024, 9:30 AM
MARINA Boardroom

SONIA B. MALALUAN

Administrator

MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

TO THE CHAIRPERSON AND PRESIDENT OF THE MARITIME LEAGUE VADM EDUARDO MA R SANTOS AFP (RET), OTHER OFFICERS OF THE MARITIME LEAGUE AS WELL AS MEMBERS WHO ARE PRESENT HERE AT THE BOARD ROOM, AS WELL AS THOSE WHO ARE JOINING US REMOTELY;

TO MARINA DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR OPERATIONS ENGR. NANNETTE VILLAMOR-DINOPOL;

OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STCW OFFICE SAM BATALLA;
AND ALL THE DIRECTORS, COLLEAGUES FROM THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY;

TO MS. BLANCA BUSTAMANTE OF INTELLEVISION;

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;

A VERY PLEASANT MORNING TO EACH AND EVERYONE.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK OF COURSE, THE MARITIME LEAGUE FOR BEING A VERY GOOD PARTNER OF THE MARINA IN SUPPORTING

Golden Voyage Towards Green and Digital Maritime Future

MARINA Building
20th Street corner Bonifacio Drive
1018 Port Area (South), Manila,
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THE DIFFERENT PLANS AND PROGRAMS THAT ARE RELATED IN ACHIEVING AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY IN THE COUNTRY.

OVER THE YEARS, WE HIGHLY APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF THE MARITIME LEAGUE PARTICULARLY IN PROVIDING PLATFORMS TO DISCUSS IMPORTANT MATTERS AND ISSUES IN THE MARITIME SECTOR.

SO, IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO THE **191ST MARITIME FORUM HOSTED BY THE MARINA**. THIS "MONTHLY FORUM" LED BY THE MARITIME LEAGUE SERVES AS AN AVENUE FOR THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PRIVATE MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS TO TACKLE ISSUES AND CONCERNS RELATED TO THE PROMOTION OF MARITIME DEVELOPMENT, ENHANCEMENT OF MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY; AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION; IMPROVEMENT OF THE SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR; PROMOTION OF THE WELL-BEING OF OUR SEAFARERS OR THE WHOLE OF MARITIME INDUSTRY.

LAST JULY 1, I AM HAPPY TO INFORM THAT WE HAVE ROLLED OUT THE MARINA BLOCKCHAIN ENABLED AUTOMATED CERTIFICATION SYSTEM (BEST) NATIONWIDE, THIS IS OUR MAIN PROJECT TOWARDS DIGITALIZATION AND I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS

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OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM EVERYONE THAT WE RECOGNIZED THAT THERE ARE STILL SOME CHALLENGES DURING THE FIRST THREE WEEKS OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION BUT THE TOP MANAGEMENT, OUR I.T. TEAM AND OUR MARINA REGIONAL OFFICES PERSONNEL ARE VERY COMMITTED TO WORK OVERTIME TO ADDRESS ALL THE ISSUES AND IMPLEMENT OUR MARINA BEST.

SO, WE HUMBLY APPEAL FOR THE UNDERSTANDING, PATIENCE AND SUPPORT FROM OUR ESTEEMED STAKEHOLDERS SUCH AS OF COURSE, THE MARITIME LEAGUE AS WE ARE STILL DILIGENTLY IMPROVING THE SYSTEM TO MAKE IT MORE CONDUCIVE TO OUR CLIENTS. IT IS ONLY NORMAL TO ANY ONLINE SYSTEM OR APPLICATION TO EXPERIENCE SOME CHALLENGES BUT I ASSURE YOU, AS MUCH AS WE ARE COMMITTED IN CONTINUING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MARINA BEST, WE ALSO ENSURE THAT EFFICIENT SECURITY PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE TO PROTECT DATA PRIVACY AND THAT THE MARINA BEST IN NO WAY SHALL CAUSE ANY DELAY IN SHIPPING OPERATIONS.

IN TERMS OF LEGISLATION, TWO OF THE PRIORITY BILLS OF MARINA WILL BE DISCUSSED TODAY INCLUDING THE "SHIP REGISTRY BILL" AND THE "SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2025."

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SO, I DON'T WANT TO PRE-EMPT THE PRESENTATIONS LATER BUT WHAT I CAN SAY IS WE ARE LOOKING FOR CHAMPIONS TO REALLY HELP US LOBBY THESE BILLS IN CONGRESS, WHICH WILL SURELY BENEFIT THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE WORKING IN OUR INDUSTRY.

I WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT THERE WILL BE A DISCUSSION OR PRESENTATION ABOUT THE UPCOMING BEACON 2024, AND I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY FULL SUPPORT TO BEACON 2024. LAST YEAR, THE SAID UNDERTAKING SERVED AS A PLATFORM IN CONDUCTING THE 3RD MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION FORUM (MEPF3). FOR THIS YEAR'S BEACON, WE WILL HOST THE BACK-TO-BACK MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION FORUM AND MARITIME SAFETY FORUM.

WE, AT MARINA, HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUPPORTIVE TO THE BEACON AND OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITIES THAT SHOWCASE THE DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING BLUE ECONOMY, DECARBONIZATION OF SHIPPING AND THE MARITIME INDUSTRY IN GENERAL. IN FACT, OUR AGENCY ENVISIONS TO CONDUCT OR ORGANIZE A "ONE TIME, BIG TIME MARITIME EXPO" IN THE COUNTRY, AND THE SUPPORT FROM THE MARITIME LEAGUE, OUR PARTNER AGENCIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS WILL BE CRUCIAL IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS PLAN IN THE FUTURE,

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BUT FOR NOW, LET US ALL MAXIMIZE THE OPPORTUNITY THAT WE HAVE TO COMPREHENSIVELY DISCUSS THE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE FEATURED IN TODAY'S MARITIME FORUM.

SO AGAIN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO ALL AND GOOD MORNING.

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