



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

## CMA CGM PHILIPPINES LAUNCHING OF DOMESTIC SHIPPING SERVICES

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### MESSAGE

27 September 2024, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**SONIA B. MALALUAN**  
Administrator  
**MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY**

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HER EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR MARIE FONTANEL;  
HON. ELMER FRANCISCO SARMIENTO DOTR UNDERSECRETARY  
FOR MARITIME;  
MR. BO WEGENER, CMA CGM ASIA PACIFIC CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER;  
MR. STEVEN ZHU, CNC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER;  
ALL DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GOOD  
MORNING.

THE PHILIPPINES HAS A LONG HISTORY AS A MARITIME NATION  
AND ARCHIPELAGIC COUNTRY THAT HEAVILY RELIES ON  
MARITIME TRANSPORT FOR ITS DOMESTIC CARGOES.

ARCHEOLOGICALLY, AS EARLY AS 4TH CENTURY, THE EARLIEST  
BOAT PLANKS WERE RECOVERED IN A PHILIPPINE SITE. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Cambridge University Press

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/abs/sea-in-history-the-medieval-world/boat-building-tradition-in-the-philippines-10th16th-centuries/37A5FDB8C0F77F1323961F4D45361B04>

*Golden Voyage Towards Green and Digital Maritime Future*

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est. 01 June 1974

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HOWEVER, THE 10TH CENTURY REVEALS MORE SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY FROM HISTORICAL SOURCES AND LIKEWISE CORRESPONDS TO THE PERIOD OF THE EARLIEST WRITTEN RECORD IN THE PHILIPPINE HISTORY; AND IT IS ALSO THE PERIOD OF THE FIRST RECORD OF A SHIP FROM THE PHILIPPINES GOING TO CHINA FOR TRADE.

IN THE YEAR 1565 TO 1815, THE MANILA BECAME ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CITIES AS THE "MANILA GALLEONS" WERE CONSIDERED AS SPANISH TREASURE SHIPS, WHICH TRANSPORTED GOODS FROM MANILA, PHILIPPINES TO ACAPULCO, MEXICO. <sup>2</sup> GALLEONS CONTINUED TO BE SIGNIFICANT UNTIL THE STEAM SHIPS WERE TRANSPORTED TO THE COUNTRY BY 19<sup>th</sup> CENTURY.

AS SHIPS STARTED TO MODERNIZE, THE GOVERNMENT CREATED AN AGENCY MANDATED TO DEVELOP, REGULATE AND PROMOTE THE MARITIME INDUSTRY, AND THAT'S THE BIRTH OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (MARINA) IN 1974 PURSUANT TO PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 474, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE ATTAINMENT OR THE OBJECTIVE TO, FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY IN THE VARIOUS ISLANDS AND REGIONS OF THE ARCHIPELAGO THROUGH THE PROVISION OF EFFECTIVE SEA LINKAGE.

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<sup>2</sup> World History Encyclopedia  
[https://www.worldhistory.org/Manila\\_Galleon/](https://www.worldhistory.org/Manila_Galleon/)

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WE, AT THE MARINA, HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND PROGRAMS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE PHILIPPINES ADAPT TO THE CURRENT TRENDS AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MARITIME INDUSTRY.

THE MIDP 2028, AS ADOPTED THRU THE ISSUANCE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 55 COVERS DIFFERENT PROGRAMS THAT AIM TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY IN THE COUNTRY.

IN REGARD TO MARITIME SAFETY, THIS PLAN INCLUDES **OVERRIDING PROGRAM ON ENHANCEMENT OF MARITIME TRANSPORT SAFETY AND SECURITY**, WHICH AIMS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF ALL SHIPS OPERATING WITHIN THE PHILIPPINE WATERS. THE MARINA ALSO STRICTLY MONITORS ALL SAFETY POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PROCESSES. IN FACT, LAST AUGUST, WE CONDUCTED A **FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION** AMONG OUR INSPECTORS AND SURVEYORS AND TECHNICAL PEOPLE TO ENSURE THAT WE ALIGN, WE HARMONIZE ALL OUR RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCESSES.

WE HAVE ALSO STARTED THE DIGITALIZATION OF THE AGENCY'S FRONTLINE SERVICES, WHICH IS CRUCIAL IN PROMOTING EASE OF DOING BUSINESS AND IMPROVING THE DAILY OPERATIONS OF ALL MARINA UNITS NATIONWIDE.

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I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT TODAY THAT WE INDEED WELCOME NEW PLAYERS SUCH AS CMA CGM IN THE COUNTRY ESPECIALLY WITH THE AMENDMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE ACT THAT ALLOWS 100 PERCENT FOREIGN OWNERSHIP. WE BELIEVE THIS WILL LEAD TO ATTRACTING MORE INVESTMENTS AND LEVEL UP THE COMPETITION IN THE MARITIME SECTOR. WITH THE ENTRY OF CMA CGM PHILIPPINES, WE EXPECT BIGGER, BETTER, GREENER AND SAFER SHIPS IN THE DOMESTIC SERVICES, AND DEFINITELY, MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR FILIPINO SEAFARERS, AND WE ARE ALSO HOPEFUL THAT WITH THE EFFICIENT SHIPPING OPERATION AND TRACK RECORD OF CMA CGM, THERE WILL BE AN OUTCOME OF REDUCED TRANSPORT COSTS IN THE FUTURE.

IT IS WITH GREAT HONOR AND PLEASURE TO BE HERE AT THE **CNC PHILIPPINES DOMESTIC SHIPPING SERVICE LAUNCH**. OVER THE YEARS, THE CMA CGM IS EXEMPLAR IN PROVIDING QUALITY SERVICES THAT MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD ON THIS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND NOW WITH CMA CGM AND ITS FLAGSHIP INTRA-ASIA BRAND “CNC,” THE OPERATION IN PARTICULAR OF MV “CNC PILIPINAS” IN THE CARRIAGE OF CARGOES TO ANY PORT IN THE PHILIPPINES IS INDEED A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT.

THERE ARE A LOT OF OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE NOW, AS WELL IN THE AREAS OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, CAPACITY BUILDING AS WE WILL BE BENEFITTING FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF THE FILIPINO SEAFARERS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL

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SERVICES BRINGING THAT WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE TO DOMESTIC OPERATION AND I GUESS AS WELL AS IN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ASPECT.

BEFORE I CLOSE, I WISH TO EXTEND OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE, THROUGH THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN MANILA FOR OUR CONTINUING COLLABORATION AND YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO THE MARINA, IN PARTICULAR AND TO THE PHILIPPINE MARITIME INDUSTRY IN GENERAL MERCI BOCO!

IN CLOSING, AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE CMA CGM PHILIPPINES SHIPPING FOR THIS LAUNCH WHICH COINCIDE WITH OUR CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL MARITIME WEEK, IT WILL BE IN THE RECORDS OF THE PHILIPPINE MARITIME INDUSTRY THAT MV CNC PILIPINAS IS THE FIRST EVER PHILIPPINE REGISTERED FULLY OWNED BY A FRENCH COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER THE PHILIPPINE LAWS, AND THIS IS THE BENEFIT OF RA 11659.

SO AGAIN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND MABUHAY CNC PHILIPPINES!

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