



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

**OATH TAKING AND INDUCTION OF SONAME OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2024-2026)**

---

**INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE**

SMX Convention Center, Pasay City  
20 June 2025

**SONIA B. MALALUAN**  
Administrator  
**Maritime Industry Authority**

---

TO THE SOCIETY OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS AND MARINE ENGINEERS, INC. (SONAME) CHAIRPERSON ENGR. SAMMUEL LIM;  
TO SONAME PRESIDENT ENGR. JACKLYN DESCARTIN;  
TO THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SONAME;  
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS; FELLOW PUBLIC SERVANTS;  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;  
GOOD MORNING TO EACH AND EVERYONE.

FIRST OF, ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO SONAME FOR ORGANIZING AND FACILITATING TODAY'S EVENT. THE MARINA AND SONAME HAS BEEN GREAT PARTNERS IN THE PAST YEARS AND I COMMEND SONAME FOR CONTINUOUSLY UPHOLDING HIGH STANDARDS IN RELATION TO THE PROMOTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR SECTOR IN THE COUNTRY, AS WELL MARITIME SAFETY.

OVER THE YEARS, THE SBSR IS CONSIDERED AS ONE OF THE SECTORS OF THE PHILIPPINE MARITIME INDUSTRY THAT HAS A



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

VERY BIG PART IN SUSTAINING THE GOOD REPUTATION OF OUR COUNTRY IN TERMS OF PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY SERVICE AND BENEFITS THAT WOULD IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY. AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, THE PHILIPPINES IS CONSISTENTLY RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE TOP FIVE SHIPBUILDING NATIONS IN THE WORLD. IN LINE WITH THIS, I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THAT NAVAL ARCHITECTURE IS A CRUCIAL FACTOR OF THE SBSR SECTOR ESPECIALLY IN ENSURING THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF SHIPS, WHICH IS VITAL IN ENHANCING MARITIME SAFETY.

WITH THAT BEING SAID, THE MARINA RECOGNIZES THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SONAME TO NAVAL ARCHITECTURE, SBSR SECTOR, MARITIME SAFETY AND THE ENTIRE MARITIME INDUSTRY. THE EFFORTS OF SONAME ARE IMPORTANT IN ORDER FOR US TO REMAIN UPDATED WITH CURRENT TRENDS AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON SHIPBUILDING TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES. AS WE CELEBRATE THE 75 YEARS OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE IN THE COUNTRY, IT IS VERY TIMELY FOR OUR AGENCY TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH SONAME AND OTHER CONCERNED ENTITIES WITH THE SAME GOAL OF FORMULATING THE BEST PRACTICAL AND TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS IN THE MARITIME SECTOR.

THE MARINA AND SONAME ARE ON THE SAME SIDE OF FLOURISHING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, EXPANDING



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROVIDING CAREER ADVANCEMENTS TO TECHNICAL PERSONNEL SUCH AS NAVAL ARCHITECTS. IN THIS REGARD, IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY AT THE OATH-TAKING AND INDUCTION CEREMONY OF THE NEWLY ELECTED SONAME OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE TERM 2024-2026.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE EXPERTISE, WISDOM AND DEDICATION OF THIS NEW SET OF OFFICERS WILL BRING SONAME TO NEW HEIGHTS, AND IT WILL ALSO DELIVER BIGGER ACHIEVEMENTS TO THE MARITIME SECTOR. OF COURSE, THE MARINA IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUE ITS COLLABORATION WITH SONAME AS THERE ARE SO MANY POSSIBLE AREAS WHEREIN, WE CAN WORK HAND-IN-HAND IN LINE WITH THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

I DON'T WANT TO SOUND REDUNDANT BUT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HUMBLY APPEAL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AS WE TARGET FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE SBSR BILL IN THE 20<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS. SINCE I ASSUME MY POSITION, THE SBSR BILL IS ONE OF MY PRIORITIES AS WE, AT THE MARINA, BELIEVE THAT THIS BILL COULD HARNESS THE POTENTIAL OF SBSR SECTOR PARTICULARLY IN EXPANDING AND UPGRADING SHIPYARD FACILITIES, PROVIDING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ATTRACTING MORE INVESTORS IN THE COUNTRY.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE NEW SET OF SONAME OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES. THANK YOU FOR ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE OF BEING IN THE FRONTLINE IN IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND PROGRAMS IN COORDINATION WITH MARINA AND OTHER PARTNER AGENCIES THROUGH THE 'WHOLE-OF-NATION APPROACH.'

LET YOUR ROLES BE AN INSTRUMENT AND OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE IN ACHIEVING A SAFER, GREENER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE MARITIME INDUSTRY.

THANK YOU AND GOOD MORNING.