



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 10th PHILMARINE 2025

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

18 June 2025 | 10 AM
SMX Convention Center, Pasay City

SONIA B. MALALUAN
Administrator
Maritime Industry Authority

TO OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER WHO WILL BE FORMALLY
INTRODUCED LATER ON (VICE ADMIRAL JOSE MA. AMBROSIO
EZPELETA OF PHILIPPINE NAVY);

TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES HER
EXCELLENCY MARIE FONTANEL;

TO ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY IN MANILA AMBASSADOR HIS
EXCELLENCY FRANZ-MICHAEL MELBIN;

TO MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES HIS EXCELLENCY ABDUL MALIK MELVIN CASTELINO;

TO ENERGY UNDERSECRETARY MR. GIOVANNI CARLO BACORDO;

TO PASAY CITY MAYOR HONORABLE IMELDA CALIXTO-RUBIANO;

TO PCG DEPUTY COMMANDANT FOR OPERATIONS VICE ADMIRAL
EDGAR YBAÑEZ;

TO ATTY. MARISSA CEREZO, DIRECTOR IV, RENEWABLE ENERGY
MANAGEMENT BUREAU;

TO FIREWORKS TRADE MEDIA GROUP CO-FOUNDER SUSAN
TRICIA;

FELLOW WORKERS IN THE GOVERNMENT, ESTEEMED
STAKEHOLDERS, MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS,



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
A PLEASANT MORNING TO EACH AND EVERYONE.

FIRST, I CONGRATULATE THE PHILMARINE FOR ITS 10th
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

THIS MILESTONE SOLIDIFIES THE IMPORTANCE OF PHILMARINE IN
THE PAST DECADE, PARTICULARLY IN SHOWCASING THE
CURRENT TRENDS AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE
SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR SECTOR, THE MARITIME
INDUSTRY AS A WHOLE AND OTHER RELATED INDUSTRIES.

THE PHILMARINE HAS BEEN CONSIDERED AS A PIONEER IN
PROVIDING AN AVENUE FOR EXPANSION OF NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES AND IT HAS BEEN SERVING AS AN ANNUAL
EVENT THAT GATHERS INTERNATIONAL KEY PLAYERS, WHERE
THEY PRESENT AND SHARE THEIR RESPECTIVE PRACTICES ON
MATTERS RELATED TO SBSR, MARITIME SAFETY, MARINE
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION, MARITIME DIGITALIZATION AND
OTHER MARITIME RELATED CONCERNS.

FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, THE MARINA AND FIREWORKS HAVE
BEEN GREAT PARTNERS FROM HOSTING THIS UNDERTAKING IN
A SMALL VENUE, TO A VIRTUAL GATHERING DURING PANDEMIC,
AND UP TO MULTIPLE BIG HALLS HERE AT THE SMX CONVENTION
CENTER IN RECENT YEARS. IT SHOWS HOW MARINA AND



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

FIREWORKS SUPPORT EACH OTHER FOR THE SUCCESSFUL HOSTING OF PHILMARINE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT THAT OUR AGENCY RECORDED A TOTAL OF 131 MARINA REGISTERED AND LICENSED SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP REPAIR ENTITIES IN THE COUNTRY LAST 2024. IT IS EQUIVALENT TO 6 PERCENT INCREASE COMPARED TO THE RECORDS IN YEAR 2023¹. IT IS WORTHY TO NOTE THAT THE POLICIES SET BY THE ADMINISTRATION, AS WELL AS THE COOPERATION FROM MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE ON THE SAID DEVELOPMENT. IT IS ALSO VITAL IN MAINTAINING THE GLOBAL POSITION OF THE PHILIPPINES AS ONE OF THE LEADING SHIPBUILDING NATIONS IN THE WORLD, TALLYING A TOTAL OF 805,938 GT BASED ON UNCTAD REVIEW OF MARITIME TRANSPORT 2024.²

AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, THE MARINA IS PUSHING FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE SBSR DEVELOPMENT BILL IN THE 20th CONGRESS. WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR CHAMPIONS TO SPONSOR AND LOBBY THE PASSAGE OF SAID BILL INTO LAW, WHICH WILL DEFINITELY IMPROVE THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE PHILIPPINE SBSR SECTOR BY COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT WILL ATTRACT MORE FOREIGN INVESTORS.

¹ MARINA Statistical Records

² UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport



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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

ASIDE FROM THE SBSR BILL, I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SHOWCASE THAT THE PEER REVIEW REPORT IN PHILIPPINE SBSR SECTOR WAS PRESENTED DURING THE 140th MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD) LAST APRIL 2025. THIS PEER REVIEW SERVES AS A VITAL INPUT TO THE SBSR BILL. THE PEER REVIEW CONDUCTED BY OECD IS A BIG DEAL FOR OUR COUNTRY CONSIDERING THAT WE ARE THE FIRST NON-OECD MEMBER TO HAVE THIS PEER REVIEW. WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN.

AS OF MAY 2025, THE MARINA IN COORDINATION WITH CONCERNED AGENCIES AND PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS COMPLETED THE RATIFICATION PACKAGE OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION OF 2009 FOR THE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS. THE SAID CONVENTION HAS MET THE ENTRY INTO FORCE REQUIREMENT WITH A TOTAL OF 24 CONTRACTING STATES AND IS SET TO TAKE EFFECT

AT THIS TIME, THE MARINA ACKNOWLEDGE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PHILMARINE AND OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITIES IN PROMOTING MARITIME SECTOR. WE HOPE THAT WE CAN CONSOLIDATE ALL MARITIME-RELATED EXPO INTO “ONE-TIME BIG-TIME EVENT” IN THE FUTURE SUCH AS THE “POSIDONIA” IN GREECE, “NORSHIPPING” IN NORWAY, “LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL



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MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MARITIME AND AEROSPACE EXHIBITION (LIMA)" IN MALAYSIA, "SEA ASIA" IN SINGAPORE AND SEA JAPAN AMONG OTHERS.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INVITE EVERYONE TO THE "2nd MARITIME SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FORUM" THIS AFTERNOON AND THE "THIRD PHILIPPINE-FRENCH DAY" TOMORROW THAT WILL BE ATTENDED BY VARIOUS FRENCH COMPANIES, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR. I AM LOOKING FORWARD FOR THE PARTICIPANTS TO GAIN NEW LEARNINGS FROM THESE CONFERENCES, WHICH THEY MAY USE IN IMPROVING THEIR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THEIR COMPANIES OR ORGANIZATION.

WITH THAT, LET US ALL ENJOY THE EXHIBITS HERE AT THE 10th PHILMARINE 2025.

CONGRATULATIONS AND CHEERS TO THE NEXT 10 YEARS OF PHILMARINE.