



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

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**MARINA ADVISORY**

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**TO : All Shipowners/ Bareboat Charterers/ Ship Operators/ Ship Managers/ Shipmasters, Officers and Crew of Philippine-Registered Overseas Ships, Licensed Manning Agencies, Recognized Organizations, and Concerned Government Agencies**

**SUBJECT : INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) CIRCULAR LETTERS AS OF 31 MAY 2025**

Notice is hereby given on the following attached IMO Circular Letters published as of 31 May 2025:

1. **Circular Letter No. 5013 – Communication from the Government of India** – The Government of India requests the circulation of information regarding the Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), a voluntary maritime information exchange platform operated by the Indian Navy. The IFC-IOR includes liaisons from 14 countries, has links with over 80 international maritime stakeholders, and its establishment, mandate, and growing partnerships were acknowledged by the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee. Furthermore, the IFC-IOR's contributions align with the Best Management Practice Maritime Security (BMP MS), published on March 31, 2025, which lists the IFC-IOR as a Reporting and Information Centre.
2. **Circular Letter No. 5015 – Communication from the Government of Malta regarding the Issuance of Electronic Ship Certificates** – The Government of Malta has announced that it will begin issuing electronic ship certificates for vessels registered under its flag starting from June 1, 2025. This initiative aims to modernize Malta's administrative processes, reduce paper usage, and align with IMO guidelines for electronic certificates. The electronic certificates will be in PDF format, considered original, and will incorporate security features such as a QR code for verification.
3. **Circular Letter No. 5019 – Communication from the Kingdom of the Netherlands** – The government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has reported fraudulent activities involving fake Certificates of Registry and Certificates of Competency (CoCs) purportedly issued on behalf of Sint Maarten (which does not issue these) and fraudulent applications for seaman's books in the Netherlands using unauthorized logos, signatures, and fictitious

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shipping names. A criminal investigation is underway, and the IMO has been informed to alert member states about these circulating fraudulent documents.

Copy of the Circular Letters may be viewed at or downloaded from <https://marina.gov.ph/marina-advisory-flag-state-administration-advisory/>.

Attention is therefore invited for all Philippine overseas shipping companies, shipowners, and other concerned maritime entities to observe any action/s you may deem appropriate.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

Issued on 11 June 2025 at Manila, Philippines.

*for: Manila A City 6/11/25*

**SONIA B. MALALUAN**

Administrator

*SO # 139-25*

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