



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

20 January 2026

MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2026-02
Series of 2026

**TO : ALL DOMESTIC SHIPOWNERS/OPERATORS/CHARTERERS
CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF THE MINIMUM SERVICE STANDARDS ON
THE PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION IN THE DOMESTIC
VESSELS DURING HOLIDAYS / PEAK SEASONS ONLY**

In the best interest of the public service and for the purpose of re-deployment or re-positioning of ships to avoid overcrowding in ports and prevent stranding of passengers, the minimum service standards on the passenger accommodation in the domestic vessels are hereby suspended during **HOLIDAYS/PEAK PERIODS ONLY**, subject to compliance with **ALL** of the following safety and operational requirements:

1. The domestic shipowners/operators are encouraged to deploy additional bottoms on routes expected to have influx of volume of passengers and cargoes.
2. The domestic shipowners/operators must signify its intent for issuance of Special Permit (SP) from the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) to operate its vessel in a specific route one (1) month before the holiday/peak season;
3. Validity of the SP shall be for the period applied for but not to exceed thirty (30) days per issuance and may be extended as the public need arises;
4. Strict implementation of the maximum authorized passenger capacity of the vessel indicated in its Passenger Ship Safety Certificate and **NO** overloading or overcrowding capacity is allowed;
5. The Accessibility Law and assistance to the Persons with Disability (PWDs), Senior Citizens, pregnant women and other members of the vulnerable sector must still be implemented;
6. The fare discounts provided for Senior Citizens under Republic Act (RA) No. 9994, PWDs under RA 10754, students under RA 11314 and registered national athletes and coaches under RA 10699 must be ensured.
7. The Minimum Service Standards on the lying accommodation of passenger ships is suspended and allowing seating accommodation **ONLY** in routes with travel time of more than four (4) hours but not exceeding eight (8) hours;

8. The vessel must at all times possess valid safety certificates, passenger insurance coverage and the required life-saving appliances;
9. The welfare of the crews in an eight (8) hour or shifting work schedules to render a safe, secured and reliable travel must be complied with;
10. The penalties stipulated under number 2 of Section 16 of MC 2018-18 and issuance of Show Cause Order for non-compliance to the Certificate of Compliance on the approved routes shall be waived during the validity of the said Special Permit;
11. Other reported and verified violations inconsistent with this Advisory and existing MARINA rules and regulations shall be dealt with accordingly; and
12. The domestic shipping owners/operators shall submit a report to this Authority, within fifteen (15) days after the expiration of the validity of the SP, the load factor of each ship per route to allow assessment for possible future policy issuance.

For strict compliance.


20 Jan 2024
SONIA B. MALALUAN
Administrator