



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

09 March 2026

MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2026-12
Series of 2026

TO : ALL SHIPOWNERS, SHIP OPERATORS, MASTERS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, PORT OPERATORS, AND OTHER MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS

SUBJECT : NATIONWIDE VALIDATION INSPECTION (NVI) OF SHIP SAFETY COMPLIANCE

In view of recent maritime accidents and considering that the inspections are conducted only once a year, all concerned stakeholders are hereby informed that MARINA shall launch a nationwide validation inspection of ships to directly address and focus on safety areas identified as root causes of the accidents.

As part of this initiative, random validation inspections shall be undertaken to verify continued compliance with safety requirements after the conduct of regular inspections, with emphasis on critical safety verification areas and priority accorded to domestic shipping companies with a history of multiple accidents or marine incidents.

I. OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONWIDE VALIDATION INSPECTION (NVI)

1. Verify the **continuing compliance** of ships and companies with applicable MARINA rules and regulations;
2. Identify **critical safety deficiencies** on board targeted ships that pose immediate or systemic risks;
3. Establish a uniform national framework for **validation inspection and enforcement actions**.

II. COVERAGE AND PRIORITIZATION

These NVI shall apply to all **Philippine-registered ships** engaged in domestic trade, identified and prioritize as follows:

1. All ships owned and operated by domestic shipping companies with more than one passenger ships and/or tanker ships involved in serious and/or very serious maritime incidents or accidents within the last three (3) years;
2. Passenger ships and tankers involved in serious and/or very serious maritime incidents or accidents within the last three (3) years;



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3. Passenger ships forty (40) years old and above, regardless of accident history;
4. Passenger ships thirty (30) years old and above, involved in accident history;
5. Other passenger ships operating in routes with travel time more than eight (8) hours or navigating during the night, regardless of age.

III. KEY VERIFICATION AREAS (KVAs)

The following shall constitute the **minimum Key Verification Areas (KVAs)** to be covered during validation inspections using the prescribed inspection checklist:

1. Life-Saving Appliances (LSA)
2. Fire-Fighting Equipment (FFE)
3. Watertight and Weathertight Integrity
4. Stability and Loadline requirements
5. Cargo Securing and Stowage
6. Propulsion and auxiliary machinery
7. Navigation and communication equipment
8. Alarms and Stand-by Emergency Systems
9. Emergency preparedness and drills

IV. RESULT OF VALIDATION

All noted deficiencies shall be rectified within seven (7) calendar days from the receipt of the Notice of Deficiencies (NOD). Failure to do so shall be ground for issuance of Show Cause Order or any other actions in accordance with existing MARINA rules and regulations, including the suspension of appropriate safety certificates, as may be warranted.

All stakeholders are enjoined to extend their full cooperation and ensure continuous compliance with safety standards to promote safe, secure, and efficient maritime operations.

For guidance and strict compliance.


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