



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. DS-2026-02

Series of 2026

**TO : ALL SHIPPING COMPANIES, SHIPOWNERS/ OPERATORS,
AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : TEMPORARY REGULATORY RELIEF AND SUPPORT
MEASURES TO DOMESTIC SHIPPING OPERATIONS
DURING THE STATE OF NATIONAL ENERGY EMERGENCY**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 474 (1974), Section 12(a) of Executive Order No. 125-A (1987), and Section 10(5) of Republic Act No. 9295 (2004), and in line with the declaration of the State of National Energy Emergency under Executive Order No. 110, directing concerned department agencies, offices and instrumentalities, including GOCCs and government financial institutions to implement necessary response measures to mitigate the ongoing crisis in the Middle East, consistent with their mandates and subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations, the following temporary relief and support measures to domestic shipping operations are hereby adopted:

I. OBJECTIVES

This Memorandum Circular (MC) aims to:

1. Mitigate the negative impacts on domestic shipping and the movement of people and cargoes, particularly basic commodities and medical supplies;
2. Provide regulatory relief to domestic shipowners/operators and cushion the impacts of the rapid increases in global and national fuel prices;
3. Reduce the financial burden of regulatory costs to support the continued viability and operation of domestic shipping services; and
4. Strengthen the capacity of MARINA to administer, monitor, and adjust regulatory relief measures in response to evolving global and national conditions.

II. COVERAGE

This Memorandum Circular shall apply to all domestic shipowners/operators engaged in passenger shipping services, roll-on/roll off (RORO) operations, cargo

shipping services, and other domestic water transport services with valid Certificate of Public Convenience (CPC) and whose ships have valid certificates.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. MARINA hereby adopts temporary regulatory relief and support measures, including reduced rates and fee discounts, to support domestic shipping operations during the State of National Energy Emergency pursuant to E.O. No. 110.
2. This Circular shall be implemented by concerned MARINA Central Office Service Units (SUs) and MARINA Regional Offices (MROs).
3. The implementation of the regulatory relief and support measures shall be temporary and responsive to prevailing conditions. MARINA may modify, extend, or terminate any measure as deemed necessary, to address changing economic, operational, or industry circumstances.
4. The measures provided herein shall apply to all applications filed in any MARINA SU or MRO during the period.
5. All domestic shipowners/operators may avail of the privileges and discounts provided under Section IV of this Circular simultaneously, subject to compliance with the applicable eligibility requirements and conditions, and as determined by MARINA.
6. All domestic shipowners/operators availing of the measures provided in this Circular shall maintain continuous vessel operations, unless prevented by force majeure or other justifiable causes recognized by MARINA.
7. MARINA shall monitor and verify the proper utilization of the measures granted and shall ensure overall oversight to guarantee effective implementation and compliance with the objectives of this Circular.

IV. SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

1. **Seventy-Five Percent (75%) Discount on Selected Regulatory Fees**

- 1.1. All domestic shipowners and operators with valid and subsisting authority to operate and duly registered vessels under MARINA shall be eligible to avail of the seventy-five percent (75%) discount on selected regulatory fees.
- 1.2. The discount shall apply to regular fees and charges prescribed and in effect prior to the effectivity of MARINA Memorandum Circular (MC) No. GC-2026-01, for Philippine-registered vessels related to the issuance and/or renewal of the following applicable ship documents, licenses, certificates, and permits:

- Certificates of Public Convenience (CPC);
- Provisional Authority (PA) and Special Permit (SP);
- Ship safety certificates, including ship survey and inspection;
- Vessel registration and licenses;
- Renewal of Accreditation; and
- Other ship-related certificates issued by MARINA under existing regulations.

1.3. MROs shall verify the eligibility of the applicant and ensure that the application pertains to covered documents or certificates before applying the discount on the applicable fees as may be reviewed by the MARINA Central Office.

1.4. The concerned MROs shall maintain records of applications granted the discount for monitoring and evaluation.

2. Reduced Annual Tonnage Fee (ATF)

2.1. The Annual Tonnage Fee (ATF) for operating Philippine-registered ships above 15 GT covered under MARINA MC No. DS 2022-01 is hereby reduced to One Peso (₱1.00) per gross tonnage (GT), regardless of vessel age and time of payment, applicable only to the ATF for Calendar Year (CY) 2025 due in 2026. ATF for ships of 15 GT and below shall be waived for the same period.

2.2. Any excess amount paid for the ATF due in 2026 prior to the effectivity of this Circular shall be credited against the ATF due in 2027 to be computed based on the rates prescribed under MC No. DS 2022-01.

2.3. All MROs shall maintain complete records of payments and the amounts to be credited to the ATF due in 2027.

3. Non-Applicability to Penalties

The relief measures provided under this Circular shall not apply to penalties, surcharges, fines, or other administrative sanctions imposed for violations of existing laws, rules, and regulations, which shall remain enforceable. Notwithstanding the foregoing, payment of such penalties, surcharges, fines, or administrative sanctions may be deferred, payment may be paid within one (1) year from the lifting of the State of National Energy Emergency.

V. MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT

1. MROs shall submit a monthly report to the Central Office through the Domestic Shipping Service (DSS) for the ATF, and to the Management, Financial and Administrative Service (MFAS) for the discount.

2. MARINA shall prepare periodic reports summarizing the implementation of the program, observed issues, and recommendations for adjustment. Based on these reports, MARINA may add, modify, extend, or terminate any measures as necessary to ensure effectiveness and sustainability.

VI. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If any provision of this Circular is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

VII. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE

This Circular shall take effect immediately upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines and shall remain valid for a period of one (1) year or during the State of National Energy Emergency, unless earlier terminated or modified by MARINA.


Manila, Philippines, 16 April 2026

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD:


SONIA B. MALALUAN
Administrator

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Memorandum Circular No. DS-2026-02 has been approved by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Board during its 320th Regular Board Meeting held on 16 April 2026.


ATTY. EUSEBIA CADLUM-BOCO
Board Secretary

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