REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

12 OCT 2026

MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2026-60

TO : **ALL SEAFARERS, MANNING AGENCIES / SHIPPING COMPANIES, SHIPOWNERS AND OPERATORS, AND ALL CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **EXTENSION OF THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE-ISSUED STCW CERTIFICATES OF SEAFARERS ONBOARD SHIPS AFFECTED BY THE ESCALATING CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BLACK SEA AND SEA OF AZOV**

In view of the continuing security situation in the Middle East, Black Sea, and Sea of Azov, which has significantly affected normal crew change operations, the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) hereby issues this Advisory for the information and guidance of all concerned.

Taking into consideration the persistent operational challenges faced by Filipino seafarers who remain unable to disembark from their vessels due to the prevailing crisis in the aforementioned region, seafarers whose Certificates of Competency (COCs) and/or Certificates of Proficiency (COPs), issued by the MARINA, that **have expired OR will expire on 31 December 2026** while onboard ships operating in or affected by the crisis in the Middle East, Black Sea and Sea of Azov, and those who are **unable to disembark as scheduled**, may be granted an extension of **six (6) months** from the date of expiry of the respective certificates.

This extension shall apply only to seafarers who remain onboard their vessels and whose disembarkation has been prevented or delayed due to the prevailing security situation in the region.

Accordingly, Shipping Companies, Shipowners, and Licensed Manning Agencies (LMAs) are directed to ensure that appropriate documentation and records, such as Port of Call, are submitted to this Administration to substantiate that the concerned seafarer remained onboard beyond the scheduled period or was stranded after disembarkation due to the said circumstances.

This Advisory is issued to ensure the continued safe manning of ships while taking into consideration the exceptional circumstances affecting Filipino seafarers deployed in the region.

12 Oct 2026

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