

Maritime Philippines



IMO COUNCIL
Category "C"



House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, Jr. signs the House of Representatives and Senate-ratified consolidated bill promoting competency and proficiency among Filipino seafarers and ensuring the country's compliance with the International Convention on Standards of Training Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention). The ratified consolidated bill was transmitted to the Office of the President and enacted as R.A. 10635 "An Act establishing the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) as the single maritime administration responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the STCW Convention, as amended, and International Agreements or Covenants related thereto." Witnessing the simple signing rites last night were principal sponsors, authors and advocates (from right) Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales, Representatives Marcelino Teodoro, Jonathan dela Cruz, Fernando Gonzalez, Cesar Sarmiento, Eleandro Jesus Madrona, Jesulito Manalo, Ronald Cosalan, and Al Francis Bichara.

05 March 2014 | Photo by Gilbert Engay, Media Relations Service-PRIB | Source: Media Relations Service, Public Relations & Information Bureau

The Philippines in the IMO

THE REPUBLIC of the Philippines presents its candidature for re-election to the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) under Category C—*states which have special interests in maritime transport or navigation, and whose election to the Council will ensure the representation of all major geographic areas of the world.*

The Philippines, a member of the International Maritime Organization since 1964, has ratified and acceded to a number of IMO Conventions and its amendments, and has been an active member of the IMO Council since 1997.

The Philippines has:

- ratified or acceded to twenty-two (22) IMO Conventions;
- hosted scores of maritime conferences or seminars, the most recent of which are:
 1. Women in Maritime (WIMA)-Asia Conference on "Promoting Women's

Advocacy for Domestic Ferry Safety,"
21-25 September 2015

2. National Workshop on the "2011 Guidelines for the Control and Management of Ship's Biofouling to Minimize the Transfer of Invasive Aquatic



Female cadets from three local maritime schools engaged guest panelists in a forum on gender issues in the workplace, whether on board ships or on land during the opening day of the Women in Maritime Asia Conference, 21 - 25 September 2015 at the Midas Hotel in Manila. Ms. Helen Buni of the IMO technical panel facilitated the forum while seated are: Mr. Nicolaos Charalambous, Director of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division; Ms. Pamela Tansey, Senior Deputy Director of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division; Capt. Herminio P Estaniel, Executive Director, MARINA STCW Office; active women panelists from Asia; second from right, Dr. Momoko Kitada, Assistant Professor at World Maritime University; and Dr. Milhar Fuazudeen, Head of Maritime Training and Human Element Section at IMO. Approximately 120 participants from 20 countries attended the conference.

Species," 22-23 June 2015

3. Conference on the "Enhancement of Safety of Ships Carrying Passengers on Non-International Voyages," 24 April 2015

4. National Consultation Meeting on the "Global Environment Facility-United Nations Development Programmed-International Maritime Organization (GEF-UNDP-IMO) Project on Removing the Capacity Barriers for Implementing Energy Efficiency Measures for International Shipping," 17-18 July 2014

5. Regional Training Course on "Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement of the Ballast Water Management Convention in the ASEAN Region," 16-18 October 2013

6. National Workshop on "The Steps

Towards Ratification of the Ballast Water Management Convention with an Emphasis on the Legal Framework," 14-15 October 2013

7. National Forum on "Safety of Domestic Ferries," 09-11 September 2013

8. Regional Training Course for Auditors under the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme (VIMSAS)-Asia Region, 20-24 May 2013

- attended and/or supported the IMO conferences or workshops in other countries in the region, such as the IMO Regional Seminar on ISPS Code Training and Maritime Security;
- supported IMO projects:
 1. GEF-UNDP-IMO Project on Removing the Capacity Barriers for Implementing Energy Measures for International Shipping



From left: MARINA Administrator Dr. Maximo Q Mejia Jr; ANGKLA partylist Rep. Jesulito Manalo; Philippine President Benigno Simeon Aquino III; and Department of Transportation and Communications Secretary Joseph Emilio Aguinaldo Abaya during a courtesy call on the president shortly after the enactment of Republic Act 10635, March 2014.

2. IMO-NORAD Cooperation Programmed to assist East Asian countries in ratifying and implementing IMO instruments for the protection of the marine environment

- hosted the IMO Regional Presence for Technical Cooperation in East Asia since 2003;
- posted Maritime Attache to the Philippine Embassy, London, UK;
- forged Memoranda of Understanding with 46 countries on Recognition of Certificates under Regulation I/10 and is now working on amending or updating the same;
- been awarded certification by Bureau Veritas under ISO 9001 for the STCW Office of MARINA;
- funded thirteen (13) students to attend the World Maritime University since 2014; and
- graduated 133 individuals at the World Maritime University and 13 at the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI).



Sea jack drill during the National Maritime Week, 23 September 2015.

AN ARCHIPELAGIC country of more than 7,100 islands, the Philippines relies on maritime transport to connect its people and culture and to maintain linkages with its ASEAN neighbours and with the rest of the world. It has a merchant and fishing fleet of close to 20,000 ships, 53 government ports and over 200 private ports.

It has a growing shipbuilding sector with a capacity of close to a million GT and is the fourth largest shipbuilding nation. The Philippines has aligned the operations of its ports and shipping industry with internationally-recognized standards mandated by the IMO.

Philippine initiatives on Maritime Security and Marine Environment Protection

THE PHILIPPINES HAS participated in regional cooperative agreements aimed at effectively carrying out the goals of the IMO, particularly in maritime security and marine environment protection. The Philippine government strongly supports the call of the IMO for urgent and greater anti-piracy coordination and cooperation procedures between and among states, regions, organizations, and industries.

In consistently advocating coordination between ship owners and Governments when attending to cases of ships that have been taken over by pirates, the Philippines provides continued support to families while seafarers are under the pirates' control, including post-incident counselling or trauma management for seafarers and their families.

The Philippines has ratified the MARPOL Convention and four of its six Annexes and is an active participant in the ASEAN-OSRAP (ASEAN Oil Spill Response Action Plan), the Regional Programme for the Prevention and Management of Marine Pollution in the East Asian Seas, and the Sulawesi Sea Oil Spill Response Network.

Spotlight on the Filipino Seafarer

THE PHILIPPINES DELIVERS the largest nationality of maritime crew serving the international merchant marine fleet. The Filipino seafarer's skill and competence is trusted and highly valued.

The Filipino seafarers comprise close to a third of all seafarers onboard ships in the international trade. Also, Filipinos comprise the largest nationality of seafarers by rank (senior officers and junior officers) and by ratings, and across all departments (deck, engine, and catering) aboard merchant cargo vessels (bulk carriers, tankers, general cargo or container ships).



Photo above: Ceremonial oath-taking of maritime officers conducted on the International Seafarers' Day, 25 June 2015.

Photo below: Search and rescue drill during the commemoration of the International Seafarers' Day at PPA Port 2, 25 June 2015.





They are the *seafarers of choice* of international manning principals because they have recognized the outstanding qualities of the Filipino: technically competent, flexible, hard-working, reliable, trustworthy, fluent in the English language, and imbued with a deep sense of duty and loyalty. Dubbed the *sailing ambassadors* of the Philippines, its seafarers have demonstrated before the global maritime community the best traits of the Filipino.

In its effort to secure the quality and competence of its pool of seafarers, the Philippines is engaged in a comprehensive reform of its maritime education, training, and certification system.

Over seventy schools are eligible to offer officers programs for both deck and engine. The country also has over a hundred training centres with approved training programs compliant with the STCW Convention.

The Philippines' deep understanding of the concerns and aspirations of seafarers enables it

The Philippines is committed to ensure proficiency and competency of seafarers through the implementation of the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and the protection of safety and welfare through the 2006 Maritime Labour Convention.

to play an important role in ensuring that their competencies and training remain relevant through the 2010 Manila Amendments to the STCW Convention and that their safety and welfare are protected through the 2006 Maritime Labour Convention.

With enhanced STCW implementation and a reservoir of qualified and competent maritime professionals, the Philippines will continue to man the world's fleet and move the world's commerce.

Leveraging its strengths—as the world's number one source of maritime labour and the fourth largest shipbuilding nation, the Philippines seeks to become a prominent supplier of other shipping services and become one of the world's *go-to* locations for shipping companies.



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

Parkview Plaza

984 Taft Avenue, Ermita, Manila

+63 2 526-0971 | Email: oadm@marina.gov.ph

Website: marina.gov.ph



DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS

The Columbia Tower

Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong City

Website: dotc.gov.ph