



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Press Release
July 17, 2018

CHED and MARINA ink joint guidelines on the monitoring of maritime education programs

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) signed a joint circular on July 10, 2018 to collaborate in the monitoring of maritime education programs in the country to ensure the competitiveness of Filipino seafarers all over the world.

The Joint CHED-MARINA Memorandum Circular No. 1 or the “Guidelines on Joint CHED-MARINA Monitoring of Maritime Education Programs” outlines four important areas: (1) qualifications and composition of the monitoring team; (2) key areas of evaluation; (3) conduct of monitoring and evaluation of findings; and (4) reporting and appeal procedures.

The signing not only signifies greater collaboration between CHED and MARINA, but also pushes for the harmonization of guidelines while strengthening the roles of each agency, the creation of an outcomes-based monitoring instrument, among others.

The joint guidelines were crafted to ensure Maritime Higher Education Institutions (MHEIs) operating Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation (BSMT) and Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering (BSMarE) programs remain compliant with the standards set by the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), as well as with the policies and issuances of the two agencies. The guidelines are also part of the corrective measures being undertaken in compliance to the Assessment Report of the European Commission (EC) to the Philippines early this year and will be included in the final report to the EC on October 31, 2018.

According to the 2017 International Chamber of Shipping, Filipino seafarers constitute close to 23% of the 1,647,500 seafarers in the world. Some 80,000 Filipino seafarers serve in European vessels.

The need for joint monitoring of maritime education programs has been sought for many years, however, the joint guidelines was made possible under the new leadership of the two agencies. CHED Commissioner J. Prospero E. De Vera III, DPA was appointed by President Duterte as Officer-in-Charge on January 24, 2018, while former AFP chief-of-staff Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero was appointed MARINA Administrator on April 26, 2018. The Joint Circular is a product of inter-agency collaboration, which is a hallmark of the governance style of the Duterte administration to address vital national concerns.

The CHED also plans to hold a Maritime Education Summit to bring stakeholders together to chart a common path and safeguard the Philippines’ place in the global maritime industry.

J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Officer-in-Charge / Spokesperson
Commission on Higher Education

Photo with caption:



On July 10, 2018, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) inked its first joint memorandum circular containing the guidelines on the conduct of monitoring of maritime education programs in the country. The signing signifies greater collaboration between the two agencies, harmonized guidelines, joint monitoring and evaluation of maritime higher education institutions, stronger push for an outcomes-based monitoring instrument, among others.

Present in the signing were (seated L-R) CHED Commissioner Ronald L. Adamat, CHED Officer-in-Charge J. Prospero E. De Vera III, MARINA Administrator Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, CHED Commissioner Pec A. Alibin, and CHED Commissioner Lilian De Las Llagas. (Standing L-R) MARINA Consultant on STCW Matters Per Arne Waloen, CHED-OPSD Division Chief for Programs with International Conventions Eleanor BA. Fernandez, CHED-OPSD Director Amelia A. Biglete, MARINA OIC-Executive Director Atty. Vera Joy S. Ban-Eg, and CHED Consultant for Maritime Alfredo Haboc.

