**Republic of the Philippines**

**Department of Transportation**

**MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY**

**STCW OFFICE**

**STCW Circular No. 2016-\_\_\_\_\_\_**

TO : **ALL SEAFARERS, MARITIME INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS,**

**MARITIME HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, PORT STATE CONTROL, AND OTHER ENTITIES AND INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **MANDATORY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF**

 **CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENY FOR MASTERS, OFFICERS, RATINGS AND OTHER PERSONNEL ON SHIPS SUBJECT TO THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF SAFETY FOR SHIPS USING GASES OR OTHER LOW FLASH POINT FUELS**

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION, MARITIME SAFETY COMMITEE, on 11 June 2015, adopt amendments to the 1978 International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), as amended and its Code, Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, ratings and other personnel on ships subject to the IGF Code

Pursuant to Republic Act 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), the 1978 International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW), as amended, the following shall be adopted:

**1. OBJECTIVES**

 To prescribe standards and procedures in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation V/3, Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters, officers, ratings and other personnel on ships subject to the IGF Code.

**2. COVERAGE**

 This circular shall apply to:

.1 Masters, officers and ratings and other personnel serving on board ships subject to the IGF Code

.2 Seafarers responsible for designated safety duties associated with or with immediate responsibility, for the care, use or in emergency response to the fuel on board ships subject to the IGF Code

**3. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

For the purpose of this Circular, in addition to the terms defined under STCW Circular No. 2014-01 and other relevant STCW circulars, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

.1 IGF Code” means the International Code of safety for ships using gases or other low flashpoint fuels, as defined in SOLAS regulation II-1/2.29.

**4. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

.1 All seafarers serving on board ships subject to the IGF Code shall, prior to being assigned shipboard duties, receive appropriate ship and equipment specific familiarization in regulation I/14, paragraph 1.5

.2 Seafarers responsible for designated safety duties associated with the care, use or in emergency response to the fuel on board ships subject to the IGF Code shall hold a certificate in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.

.3 Masters, engineer officers and all personnel with immediate responsibility for the care and use of fuels and fuel systems on ships subject to the IGF Code shall hold a certificate in advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code.

**5. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY FOR MASTERS, OFFICERS, RATINGS AND OTHER PERSONNEL ON SHIPS SUBJECT TO THE IGF CODE**

.1 Certificate in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF code

Every candidate for issuance of Certificate of Proficiency in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code shall:

.1.1 have successfully completed the approved basic training required by regulation V/3, paragraph 5, in accordance with their capacity, duties and responsibilities as set out in table A-V/3-1; and

.1.2 be required to provide evidence that the required standard of competence has been achieved in accordance with the methods and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of table A-V/3-1.

.2 Certificate in advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code

Every candidate for a certificate in advanced training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code shall, while holding the Certificate of Proficiency in basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF code, have:

.2.1 have successfully completed the approved advanced training required by regulation V/3, paragraph 8 in accordance with their capacity, duties and responsibilities as set out in table A-V/3-2;

.2.2 provide evidence that the required standard of competence has been achieved in accordance with the methods and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of table A-V/3-2; and

.2.3 completed at least one month of approved seagoing service that includes a minimum of three bunkering operations on board ships subject to the IGF Code. Two of the three bunkering operations may be replaced by approved simulator training on bunkering operations as part of the training in basic training in accordance with the provisions of section A-V/3, paragraph 1 of the STCW Code.

**6. Completion of the APPROVED Training**

Trainees, who have successfully completed the approved training programs mentioned above and passed the assessment thereof, shall be issued a Certificate of Completion for the ATP duly completed.

**7. REVALIDATION OF CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY (COP)**

Seafarers holding Certificates of Proficiency in accordance with paragraph 5, above, shall at intervals not exceeding five years, undertake appropriate refresher training or be required to provide evidence of having achieved the required standard of competence within the previous five years, which can be established by:

.1 have successfully completed the appropriated approved training required by regulation V/3, in accordance with their capacity, duties and responsibilities as set out in table A-V/3; or

.2 provide evidence that the required standard of competence has been achieved in accordance with the methods and the criteria for evaluating competence tabulated in columns 3 and 4 of table A-V/; or

.3 have completed sea going service of three months in the previous five years on board:

.3.1 ships subject to the IGF Code;

.3.2 tankers carrying as cargo, fuels covered by the IGF Code; or

.3.3 ships using gases or low flashpoint fuel as fuel.

**8. SCHEDULE OF FEES, PENALTIES AND FINES**

The schedule of fees, penalties and fines shall be provided in a separate circular.

**9. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS**

.1 Seafarers responsible for designated safety duties associated with the care, use or in emergency response to the fuel on board ships subject to the IGF Code who have been qualified and certified according to regulation V/1-2, paragraphs 2 and 5, or regulation V/1-2, paragraphs 4 and 5 on liquefied gas tankers, are to be considered as having met the requirements specified in section A-V/3, paragraph 1 for basic training for service on ships subject to the IGF Code; and

 Shall have received appropriate ship and equipment specific familiarization in regulation I/14, paragraph 1.5.

.2 Masters, engineer officers and any person with immediate responsibility for the care and use of fuels on ships subject to the IGF Code who have been qualified and certified according to the standards of competence specified in section A–V/1-2, paragraph 2 for service on liquefied gas tankers are to be considered as having met the requirements specified in section A-V/3, paragraph 2 for advanced training for ships subject to the IGF Code, provided they have also:

.2.1 met the requirements of paragraph 5.1 or 9.1, above;

.2.2 minimum of three bunkering operations on board ships subject to the IGF Code, two of the three bunkering operations may be replaced by approved simulator training on bunkering operations as part of the training in paragraph 5.1 above or have participated in conducting three cargo operations on board the liquefied gas tanker; and

.2.3 have completed sea going service of three months in the previous five years on board:

.2.3.1 ships subject to the IGF Code;

.2.3.2 tankers carrying as cargo, fuels covered by the IGF Code; or

.2.3.3 ships using gases or low flashpoint fuel as fuel.

**10. Penalty CLAUSE**

Any violation of the provisions of this Circular and other related MARINA issuances shall be governed and sanctioned by the provisions of the IRR for RA 10635 and MARINA Circular No. 2013 – 05 including any amendment or addendum thereof, as may be promulgated by the Administration.

**11. REPEALING CLAUSE**

Any provision of existing MARINA and STCW circulars, rules and regulations, or of any other Philippine government agency related to education, training, examination, assessment, licensing and certification of IGF Code, which are contrary or inconsistent with this circular are hereby superseded, repealed or amended accordingly.

**12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

Should any provision or part of this Circular be declared by any competent authority to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect and shall continue to be valid and effective.

**13. EFFECTIVITY**

This STCW Circular shall take effect immediately on the day of its publication.

Manila, Philippines, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Submitted:

**CAPT. ELEAZAR G. DIAZ**

*Executive Director*

Approved:

**MARCIAL Q. C. AMARO III PhD**

*Administrator*

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that STCW Circular No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was approved by the Administrator on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**ATTY. MAXIMO I BAÑARES, JR.**

*OIC, Deputy Executive Director*