

**[PHTBP MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 03-2001,
June 15, 2001]**

**REVISED RULES ON THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION BY
GARBAGE FROM SHIPS**

I. AUTHORITY

- a. Executive Order No. 292
- b. Republic Act No. 5173
- c. Presidential Decree No. 600
- d. Presidential Decree No. 979
- e. Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, MARPOL 73/78

2. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Memorandum Circular is to provide implementing rules to prevent pollution by garbage from ships within the territorial and archipelagic waters of the Philippines.

3. SCOPE:

This Memorandum Circular shall apply to all Philippine registered vessels engaged in international or domestic trade and to all small crafts within the Philippine territorial and archipelagic waters.

4. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

- a. Waste - unnecessary or superfluous matters, which are to be discharged. For purposes of this Circular, the term "waste" shall be used synonymously with the term garbage.
- b. Food Waste - any spoiled or unspoiled victual substances, such as fruits, vegetables, dairy products, poultry, meat products, food craps, food particles and other matter contained by these substances, generated aboardship, principally in the galley and dinning areas.
- c. Plastic - solid material containing one or more synthetic organic high polymers and which is formed/shaped by heat and/or pressure either during the material properties ranging from hard and brittle to soft and elastic, and is used for marine purposes including, but not limited to packaging, ships construction, disposable eating utensils, bags, sheeting, floats, fishing nets, strapping bands, rope and line.
- d. Domestic Waste - all types of food waste and wastes generated in the living spaces on board the ship.

e. Cargo-Associated Waste - any matter which have become waste as a result of cargo stowage and handling, including, but not limited to dunnage shoring, pallets, lining and packing materials, plywood, paper, cardboard, wire and steel strapping.

f. Maintenance Waste - any matter collected by the engine and deck department while maintaining and operating the vessel, such as soot, machinery, deposits, scraped paint, deck sweeping, wiping waste and rags, etc.

g. Operational Waste - all cargo associated with maintenance waste and cargo residues.

h. Dishwater - residue from the manual or automatic washing of dishes and cooking utensils which have been pre-cleaned to the extent that any food particles adhering to it would not normally interfere with the operation of automatic dish washers.

i. Cargo Residues - remnants of any cargo material on board that cannot be placed in proper holds or which remains in cargo holds or elsewhere after unloading procedures have been completed.

j. Fishing Gear - any device or part thereof that may be placed in the water for the purpose of capturing or controlling for subsequent capture, living marine or freshwater organism.

k. Special Permit - a document issued by the Philippine Coast Guard in favor of ship operators and shipyards, granting the latter the authority to dump waste/garbage into the sea or any body of water within the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines, subject to specified conditions prescribed by PCG rules and regulations on dumping and discharge of waste and other harmful matters.

l. Special Area - a body of water, which due to recognized technical reasons in relation to its oceanographic and ecological condition and strategic importance, is deemed subject to special control.

m. Reception Facility - refers to a port garbage discharge reception facility provided by the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) or a mobile discharge reception service provided by, or approved contract with or a permit issued by the PPA, Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) or the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), as the case may be.

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POLICIES

a. Prohibitions: It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose into any body of water within the Philippines:

1) Any material made of plastic including, but not limited to synthetic fishing nets and plastic garbage bags; or

2) Any domestic, cargo-associated, maintenance and/or operational waste.