

**[ MIA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 41-A, March  
16, 1991 ]**

**REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ENDORSEMENT  
CERTIFICATES AND RATING CERTIFICATE**

Please be informed that in its meeting on 21 January 1989, the Board approved the following guidelines, amending MC #41, for the issuance of certificates pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978 which was acceded to and deposited with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) by the Philippine Government on 11 January and 22 February 1984, respectively, and Executive Order Nos. 125 and 125-A, to wit:

**A**

**Scope and Coverage**

1. *Officers* — (a) All certificates of competency which were issued before 22 May 1984, the date in which the Convention entered into force for the Philippines, shall be recognized as valid for service and will be endorsed in accordance with the Convention to show their validity only upon application and payment of the appropriate fee. Such certificates of competency are those issued by the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) for deck and engine officers and by the National Telecommunications Commission for radio operators/officers.
- b. All certificates of competency which were issued on or after 22 May 1984 but before 22 May 1989 (the end of the five-year transition period allowed by the Convention) shall also be recognized as valid for service, provided however that the seafarers had commenced their sea service before 22 May 1984, within the specific ship department to which those certificates relate. Such Certificates will be endorsed in accordance with the Convention to show their validity only upon application and payment of the appropriate fee.
- c. All certificates of competency which were issued on or after 22 May 1984 but before 22 May 1989, to seafarers who had commenced their sea service within the same period will require endorsement in accordance with the Convention in order to show their validity and upon application and payment of the appropriate fee. Such endorsement will be issued only to seafarers who have attended the upgrading courses conducted by any of the training schools recognized/accredited by MARINA.
- d. All certificates of competency issued to seafarers on 22 May 1989 and thereafter shall be strictly in compliance with the provision of the Convention, and therefore, holders are required to attend the necessary upgrading courses conducted by any of the training schools recognized/accredited by MARINA. Such certificates will be endorsed in accordance with the Convention to show their validity upon application and payment of appropriate fee.

2. *Ratings* — (a) Only seamen performing deck or engine watchkeeping duties shall be certificated/endorsed.

b. Ratings who have served as Able Seaman Oiler shall be qualified certification/endorsement.

c. Ratings who hold either AMT/BSMT or degree and have undergone a year of apprenticeship in deck department or two years of shipboard training in engine department may be qualified certification/endorsement.

## **B**

### **Certificates Issued**

1. *Certificate of Endorsement* — (a) All deck, engine and radio officers shall be required to have their licenses endorsed by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) provided, however, that the said licenses are authenticated by the respective agencies which issued them. Likewise, they must present/submit documents e.g. health certificate, Seaman's Book for the required sea service, the required STCW training certificates, and other requirements as may be deemed necessary by MARINA.

b. Officers and ratings who are to have specific duties and responsibilities in connection with cargo and cargo equipment on oil, chemical or liquefied gas tankers shall take and complete a specialized training program appropriate to their duties and type of ship they are to board. Certificates obtained from special training shall have to be endorsed by MARINA.

2. *Rating's Certificate* — Only seafarers forming part of navigational or engine watch shall be issued the Rating's Certificate, provided they comply with the following requirements:

a. At least 18 years of age;

b. Must have passed a thorough physical examination particularly regarding eyesight (including color perception) and hearing from a MARINA accredited/recognized hospital or clinic;

c. Must have served on board vessels:

in deck dept. — 250 GRT for at least six (6) months  
as part of navigational watch.

in engine dept. — 750 KW for at least one (1) year  
as part of engine watch;

d. For High School graduates and undergraduates of Maritime Courses, must have successfully undergone special training in Navigational or Engine Watchkeeping Courses;

e. For ratings cited under A.2.c of this M.C. must submit a copy of Diploma or Transcript of records;