

[MIA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 124, August 26, 1997]

REVISED CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSELS IN THE DOMESTIC TRADE

Pursuant to PD 474 and Executive Order Nos. 125/25-A, and in consonance with the government's policy to further strengthen maritime safety, the following revised guidelines in the classification of vessels to be operated in the domestic trade are hereby adopted:

I

Vessels to be Acquired Under Memo Circular 104

The following vessels intended for acquisition under Memorandum Circular No. 104 must be classed or classed by an internationally accredited classification society as of the time of their acquisition;

- a. Passenger and/or cargo vessels 500 GT and above; and
- b. Tankers and barges hauling petroleum, petroleum by-products, chemicals and other hazardous cargoes.

Vessels falling under the foregoing categories, including High Speed Craft, which are to be acquired through local construction shall be built to class.

It is further understood that the aforementioned vessels shall be classified maintained at all times during their operation in the domestic trade.

II

Exempt Vessels

Vessels approved for acquisition commencing 1 January 1997 and those intended for acquisition under Memorandum Circular 104, not falling within the categories in Section (I), in lieu of the classification requirement, must be in seaworthy condition, without outstanding recommendations, as shown in the latest survey report prepared by a marine surveyor in the country of origin of the vessel, and as attested to or confirmed by actual MARINA survey and inspection to be conducted prior to the release of the vessel from the custody of the Bureau of Customs.

III

Vessels Acquired/Delivered Commencing 1 January 1997:

Vessels required to be classed under Section (I) which were approved for acquisition