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POEA issues guidelines on online registration of seafarers

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration yesterday issued the guidelines on the online registration of seafarers in compliance with POEA Governing Board Resolution No. 13, Series of 2016.

Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac said the online seafarer registry system was implemented to replace the seafarer registration certificate (SRC) which was issued exclusively at the POEA main office.

Cacdac said seafarers for marine and non-marine categories, and land-based workers who are in possession of skills and work experience required of a particular sea-based position may register.

The registrants should be at least 18 years old (except cadets); graduate of maritime courses or any related courses applicable to maritime employment; with Seafarer's Information and Record Book (SIRB) issued by MARINA; and with no medical or legal impediments to qualify from overseas employment.

Cacdac said seafarers who have previously registered under the SRC system need not register using the online registration of seafarers.

He said seafarers should register to be included in the list of qualified seafarers for overseas employment which will be source of valuable information on maritime labor market for policy research and development.

"The online seafarer registry shall likewise pave the way for the development and implementation of a universal identification system for Filipino seafarers that is acceptable to all government agencies and Port States in compliance with ILO Convention No. 185 or the Seafarer's Identity Document Convention" Cacdac added.

Cacdac said the online registration is absolutely free and is available at the POEA website poea.gov.ph. starting September 26, 2016. ./END