

**[ NTC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 05-06-2004,  
June 25, 2004 ]**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE GRANT OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION  
TO ACCOUNTING AUTHORITIES IN THE MARITIME MOBILE  
SERVICE**

Pursuant to Act 3846, as amended, Executive Order No, 546, and the International Telecommunications Regulations specifically ITU-T Recommendation D.90 for the charging and billing of maritime accounts of Philippine Registered Ships, the Commission hereby promulgates the following guidelines in the grant of Certificate of Recognition to accounting authorities in the maritime mobile service.

**A. Scope**

These guidelines are intended to define the duties and responsibilities of accounting authorities. This is to ensure that accounting authorities operate in accordance with the International Radio Regulations, taking into account the applicable ITU-T Recommendations, specifically Recommendation D.90.

**B. Definition of Terms**

1. Accounting Authority (AA) - refers to any organization designated by the Administration who acts as a billing intermediary between the maritime mobile stations and service providers.
2. Maritime Mobile Service - a mobile service which covers the maritime mobile satellite service as well as the MF, HF and VHF radio media, unless specifically stated otherwise.
3. Maritime Mobile Satellite Service - a mobile satellite service which covers the mobile earth stations located on board ships. Survival craft stations; emergency position - indicating radio beacon stations; and Inmarsat communications equipment are included in this service.
4. Service Provider - a recognized private operating agency (RPOA) authorized to provide communication service to and from the maritime mobile stations.
5. Maritime Bill - the bill issued by the service provider with respect to collection of charges for the maritime mobile traffic that originated from a maritime mobile station.
6. Administration - refers to any government organization who is responsible for discharging the obligations undertaken in the Convention of the International Telecommunications Union. For purposes of these guidelines, "Administration" refers to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) or the Commission.

7. ITU-T - refers to the organization of the International Telecommunications Union responsible for developing international telecommunications recommendations relating to standardization of international telecommunications services and facilities, including matters related to international charging and accounting principles and the settlement of international telecommunications accounts.

8. ITU Recommendation D.90 - refers to the principles for charging, billing, international accounting and settlement for the maritime mobile service.

### **C. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Accounting Authorities must be registered with the Commission. Registration must be subject to periodic review and inspection to determine compliance with the provisions of this Circular.

i. If a registered Accounting Authority is planning to relinquish its Authority, the Commission must be notified in writing at least six (6) months in advance of such plan.

ii. If a registered Accounting Authority intends to change ownership, merge, or sell, it shall inform the Commission in writing at least three (3) months in advance. The new owner shall be treated as new applicant if it is interested in becoming an Accounting Authority.

2. Each Accounting Authority will be allocated a distinct Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC). The AAIC consists of two parts; the first part will be two letters denoting the country in which the accounting authority is based (for example: Philippines is PH); and the second part will be numeric with a maximum of two characters, denoting the particular Accounting Authority.

3. Accounting Authorities are responsible for remitting in a timely manner, all valid amounts due to foreign administrations or their agents.

4. Accounting Authorities must cooperate fully with the Commission in all respects concerning international maritime settlement issues, including the resolution of questions of fact or other issues arising as a result of settlement operations.

5. Accounting Authorities must maintain all accounting records for a period of at least five (5) years.

6. The NTC shall submit all names, addresses, and identification codes of Accounting Authorities to the Radiocommunications Bureau for inclusion in the List of Ship Stations.

7. The ITU-T Recommendation D.90 is hereby adopted to form part of this Memorandum Circular (MC). Copy of ITU-T Recommendation D.90 is appended to this Circular.

### **D. Qualifications of Accounting Authority**