

**[POEA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 55, S. OF
1996, December 16, 1996]**

**REVISED STANDARD EMPLOYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS
GOVERNING THE EMPLOYMENT OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS ON
BOARD OCEAN-GOING VESSELS**

Pursuant to Department Order No. 33, Series of 1996, and upon the recommendations of the Seabased Tripartite Technical and Consultative Committee, the following guidelines on the revised Standard Employment Contract Governing the Employment of Filipino Seafarers on Board Ocean-Going Vessels is hereby issued:

1. The attached revised employment terms and conditions governing the overseas employment of Filipino seafarers (Annex A) shall be effective on 01 January 1997 and after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

It is reiterated that the terms and conditions provided in this revised employment contract are the minimum requirements acceptable to POEA for the overseas employment of a Filipino seafarer. The parties to an employment of a seafarer may therefore improve on these minimum terms and conditions provided such improvements shall be made in writing and appended to this contract and submitted to POEA for processing and approval. Moreover, such improvements should have prospective application.

2. The new schedule of benefits shall apply to any Filipino seafarer that will be deployed on or after the effectivity of this Circular.

3. All manning agencies are directed to advise all their principals in all vessels on the revised employment terms and conditions and to enjoin the highest Filipino officer to have a copy of the revised contract and discuss with his crew.

4. Discussions on the new employment terms and conditions should be incorporated in the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars being conducted by the manning agencies.

For strict compliance.

Adopted: 16 December 1996

(SGD.) FELICISIMO O. JOSON, JR.
Administrator
