

**[NTC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 02-04-2009,
April 14, 2009]**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE RECOGNITION OF GMDSS RADIO
CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY OR UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF
ANOTHER PARTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 1/10 OF
THE STCW CONVENTION**

Pursuant to Act 3846, as amended, E.O. 546, Chapter NIX Article 55 of the ITU Radio Regulations and Regulation 1/10 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended, the National Telecommunications Commission hereby promulgates the following guidelines for the recognition of certificates issued by or under the authority of another party.

1. Definitions

- 1.1. **Party** means a State for which the STCW Convention has entered into force.
- 1.2. **Administration** means the Government of the Party whose flag the ship is entitled to fly.
- 1.3. **Certificate** means a valid document, issued by or under the authority of the Administration or recognized by the Administration authorizing the holder to serve as authorized by national regulations.

2. GMDSS Radio Certificates issued by or under the authority of another **Party (Administration)** shall be recognized provided that the issuing Party is included in the list of Parties with whom the Philippines has a Bilateral Agreement pursuant to Regulation 1/10 of the 1978 STCW Convention, as amended.

- 2.1. The Commission shall recognize a GMDSS Radio Operator Certificate and allow its holder to perform the functions applicable to that Certificate while serving on board Philippine Registered vessel.
- 2.2. The Commission shall issue a Recognition Certificate equivalent to the Certificate issued by another Party and shall expire as soon as the certificate recognized or is withdrawn, suspended or cancelled by the Party which issued it and, in any case, not more than five (5) years after the date of issue.
- 2.3. The Commission may, if circumstances require, allow a seafarer to serve the capacity of GMDSS Radio Operator for a period of not exceeding three (3) months on board a Philippine Registered Vessel while holding valid GMDSS

Radio Operator Certificate issued and endorsed by another Party for use on board that Party's ship but which has not yet been recognized by the Commission provided that the application for recognition has been submitted on or before the date of embarkation to a Philippine flag vessel.