

PRESS RELEASE

NMP Conducts Orientation-Seminar on Anti-Piracy Course for Seafarers

The National Maritime Polytechnic (NMP) in cooperation with the Maritime Training Council (MTC) conducted an Orientation-Seminar on Anti-Piracy Course for Seafarers on October 5, 2011 at the Blas F. Ople Building, Ortigas Avenue cor. EDSA, Mandaluyong City. The orientation-seminar was participated by seventy five (75) seafarers, manning and shipping agency staff and training providers.

Concern on the safety of Filipino seafarers scattered around the globe prompted the Philippine government to institute anti-piracy precautionary measures. Thus, mandating POEA to ensure that all departing seafarers should undergo anti-piracy awareness training with the manning agencies designated to conduct to their own seafarers. Recognizing that not all manning agencies have the capability to conduct an anti-piracy training program, the POEA tasked its partner government agencies in maritime education and training (MET), the MTC and the NMP, to develop and conduct the Anti-Piracy Course for Seafarers.

The course is designed to increase awareness among seafarers on the measures that could be employed to avoid, destroy or delay piracy attacks to ships in order to minimize the danger to the crew and ships in the event of pirates' attack.

Piracy against ships has been regarded a tremendous global concern, which has alarmed the entire maritime community. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) in particular and the shipping industry in general are readily keen on their efforts to prevent and suppress these acts and establish measures to improve security on ships. IMO's aim is to foster the development of regional agreement on implementation of counter piracy measures.

oOo