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TANGGAPAN NG KOMANDANTE
(OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT)
PUNONGHIMPILAN TANOD BAYBAYIN NG PILIPINAS
(HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD)
139 25th Street, Port Area
1018 Manila

24 AUG 1993

IPCG/CG-10

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR)

NUMBER 12-93)

AIDS TO NAVIGATION PROGRAM-POLICY

1. AUTHORITY:

- a. RA 5173 as amended, known as the Philippine Coast Guard Law.
- b. PCG-DOTC Memorandum of Agreement dated 5 June 1990.

2. PURPOSE:

This Memorandum Circular provides guidelines in the establishment of aids to navigation in the Philippines.

3. SCOPE:

This Memorandum Circular applies to all types of aids to navigation in the Philippines.

4. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

- a. **Aids to Navigation** - visual, acoustical or radio devices such as lighthouses, buoy, radar reflectors, fog signal stations, radio beacon stations, or facilities like vessel traffic service (VTS) systems and traffic separation schemes (TSS) which by means of light, shape, color, sound and electric wave, inform vessels of the necessary information (position of the vessel, marking of destination, hazard, flow of traffic, etc.) to assist the safe and easy movement of ships.
- b. **Lighthouse** - a fixed lighted aid to navigation constructed on-shore either untended or tended by a permanent personnel assigned and housed on site.
- c. **Beacon** - a fixed aid to navigation constructed off-shore with no permanent personnel assigned to tend; a beacon may or may not be lighted.
- d. **Buoy** - a floating marker anchored in a fixed position to indicate channels, rocks, bars, or other hazards to navigation; a buoy may or not be lighted.

- e. **Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) System** - a regulatory and control service designed to improve safety and efficiency of vessel traffic flow in harbors or restricted waterways that have heavy volume of vessel movement.
- f. **Traffic Separation Scheme** - a systematic guide drawn on a navigational chart indicating imaginary lanes designed to give Master of ships specific lanes and directions to follow for safe navigation in restricted waterways.
- g. **Navigational Chart** - a map that provides information relevant to navigation at sea, including water depths, nature of the sea bottom, coastal topography, identification and position of navigational aids and conspicuous landmarks, etc.
- h. **Restricted Waterway** - a river, canal, or other constricted navigational passages where movement of ship is limited.
- i. **Harbor** - a sheltered body of water where ships settle down to load or unload cargoes, or for other purposes.
- j. **Lighthousekeeper or lightkeeper** - Personnel assigned to tend the light station equipment and civil structure for continuous operation.

5. AIDS TO NAVIGATION BOARD:

- a. The National Board for Aids to Navigation (NABAN) shall be created and will be composed of:

Deputy Commandant, PCG - Chairman

Commander, Aids to Navigation Command - Vice Chairman

AC of S, for Navigational Safety, CG-10 - Member

PN representative - Member

DOTC representative - Member

MARINA representative - Member

PPA representative - Member

Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey, NAMRIA - Member

National Auxiliary Commodore, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary - Member

← CISO representative - Member

PISA representative - Member

← FFAP representative - Member

- b. At the Coast Guard District level, a District Board for Aids to Navigation (DIBAN) will also be created at all Coast Guard Districts to be composed of:

District Commander - Chairman

Deputy District Commander - Vice Chairman

District Aids to Navigation Officer (DANO) - Member

PPA representative - Member

CISO representative - Member

FFAP representative - Member

District Coast Guard Auxiliary Commodore - Member

Naval District representative - Member

Harbor Pilot Association representative - Member

c. The membership composition of the NABAN and the DIBAN shall be designated upon the recommendation of the respective Chairman and approval of the Commandant, PCG. The heads of offices of the agencies or sectors concerned shall nominate their respective representative, who shall serve until duly replaced.

d. HPCG and District Orders will be published covering memberships in the NABAN and the DIBAN, respectively.

6. FUNCTIONS:

a. National Board for Aids to Navigation:

(1) Review the country's aids to navigation situation, including accuracy of navigational charts, on at least a quarterly basis.

(2) Evaluate the necessity of establishing new aids to navigation structures, or deactivating existing ones in specific areas within the country upon recommendation by the DIBAN.

(3) Determine the need for establishment and operation of Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) systems and Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS) in specific harbors and restricted waterways in consultation with or as may be recommended by the cognizant DIBAN.

(4) Formulate plans and corresponding yearly programs for the development of aids to navigation facilities nationwide and submit same for approval of the Commandant, PCG and the Secretary of Transportation and Communications.

(5) Formulate policies and approve the budget and expenditures of the Light Dues Fund.

b. District Board of Aids to Navigation:

(1) Continually review and evaluate the status of existing aids to navigation facilities within the PCG District area of responsibility and recommend to higher authorities thru the NABAN appropriate actions thereto.

(2) Identify specific aids to navigation structures and facilities, including VTS and TSS needed within the PCG District, and formulate corresponding development programs for integration in the NABAN national program.

(3) Oversee the implementation of aids to navigation development projects in the PCG District.

7. GUIDELINES:

- a. The Assistant Chief of Coast Guard Staff for Navigational Safety, CG-10 is not relieved of his responsibility to act as the primary officer to monitor, plan for and administer aids to navigation. In this regard, he shall see to it that this Memorandum Circular is complied with.
- b. The District Aids to Navigation Officer (DANO) shall continuously maintain a District Aids to Navigation Plan. He shall be assisted by the Station Commanders, who shall be the originators of programs to be undertaken in their respective jurisdictions.
- c. The Coast Guard District staff shall compile records of the following for use of the District Board:
 - (1) List of navigation accidents in AOR;
 - (2) Accident prone areas and routes;
 - (3) Requests for establishment aids to navigation (individual Masters/Patrons/ship Captains/Pilots as well as requests from naval units, politicians and local officials).
- d. Insofar as practicable, the following criteria must be applied in establishing a light station:
 - (1) The volume of traffic must be at least fifty (50) watercraft plying within the locality;
 - (2) The lot where the LH will be constructed must be donated in favor of the government, unless a government site is available; and
 - (3) A Memorandum of Agreement between the PCG and local officials concerned will be executed to define each other's responsibility regarding the newly established aids to navigation.
- e. Appropriate SOPs shall be published relevant to National and District Boards procedures consistent with this policy.

8. RECISSION CLAUSE:

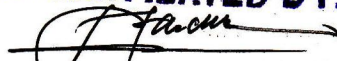
Memorandum Circular No 04-90 dated 28 June 1990 and circulars and policies inconsistent with this Memorandum Circular are hereby rescinded.

9. EFFECTIVITY:

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect upon publication.


CARLOS L AGUSTIN
Commodore AFP

AUTHENTICATED BY:


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ACTING COAST GUARD ADJUTANT