

Philippine government unveils plans for the maritime industry at CrewConnect Global 2022



The Philippine government aims to establish the country as the "Maritime Capital of the World" by providing the global maritime industry with world-class Filipino seafarers. This was shared by Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista at the CrewConnect Global session on "An essential update from the Government of the Philippines" facilitated by PTC CEO Gerardo Borrromeo last November 22 at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza.



Secretary Bautista said the Department of Transportation (DOTr) is determined to address current challenges faced by the maritime industry for the country to achieve such a reputation. "Our goal at the Department of Transportation is to entrench the position of the Philippines as the Maritime Capital of the World by supplying the "seafarers of choice" for the global maritime industry," he added.

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Mr. Borromeo also took part in the discussion on "The Just Maritime Transition: What to look out for as we strive for a more sustainable industry" where he was joined by Sturla Henriksen, Special Advisor of the United National Global Compact; Helio Vicente, Senior Manager of the International Chamber of Shipping; and Jacqueline Smith, Maritime Coordinator of the International Transport workers' Federation.



Ms. Karen Avelino, PTC Executive Director of Business Development for Shipping & Senior Vice President of Cruise Operations took part in the panel discussion on "Looming Labour Shortage: Checking in with Crew Supply for the Cruise Industry" on November 23, Day 2 of the Conference.

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Capping the conference was the CrewConnect Awards and Gala Dinner on the evening of November 24. Recognized as finalists for the CrewConnect Global Awards were PTC's Project RISE for the Welfare and Corporate Social Responsibility category while PHILCAMSAT's Bridge Program was shortlisted for the Industry Solutions Award.



Shown in the photo are (from left to right) Engr. Peter Lugue, Mr. Leslie Suntay, Capt. Pol Haboc, Mr. Jean-Noel André (CEO of Suisse-Atlantique), Ms. Christina S. Manzano, Dr. Tommy C. Lichauco (back row), Mr. Gerardo Borromeo (back row), Ms. Beng Cristobal, Ms. Karen Avelino, Ms. Trishia S. Lichauco, Capt. Stan Santiago and Mr. Hector Brizuela.

The 3-day conference which took place from November 22 to 24 brought together leading shipowners, ship management companies, crewing agents, training academies, and maritime authorities to discuss the most pressing issues facing the global crewing industry today.

To welcome the delegates of CrewConnect Global 2022, PTC hosted a welcome dinner on November 21 at the Palacio de Memoria in Parañaque City.



Kulturang Kayumanggi, student performers from the Parañaque City National High School, welcomed the delegates with *rondalla* numbers.



The REP Showstoppers regaled the delegates with a medley of popular songs from Broadway musicals that captured the Filipino spirit.