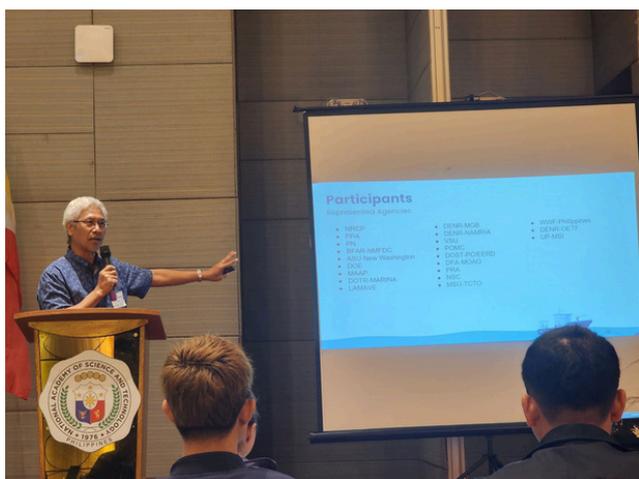

Philippine Research Vessels 2025

Luxent Hotel, Manila, Philippines

On behalf of MAAP President VAdm Eduardo Ma. R. Santos, Dr. Baylon was honored to represent the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) at the NAST-DOST convened meeting focused on the Philippines' ocean-going platforms and research vessels. The event brought together representatives from key government agencies, including MARINA-DOTr, NRCP, Philippine Navy (PN), PPA, BFAR-NMFDC, DOE, DENR-MGB, DENR-NAMRIA, DENR-OETF, DFA-MOAD, DOST-PCIERD, PRA, LAMAVE, NSC, and WMF Philippines, along with three government universities—Aklan State University (ASU), Mindanao State University (MSU), and the UP Marine Science Institute (UP-MSI).



Facilitated and organized by experts and scientists from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) under the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the meeting was described as timely, relevant, and productive. Participants were grouped into five teams, each presenting their respective outcomes—highlighting key issues, challenges, gaps, and proposed solutions aimed at strengthening the country’s maritime research and ocean governance capabilities.



Looking ahead, NAST and MAAP are set to formalize their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), paving the way for joint scholarly endeavors that will further enhance maritime research, capacity building, and innovation in support of national development goals.