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Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim



OUA MEMO 00-0221-0199
MEMORANDUM
19 February 2021

For: **Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones**
Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
All Schools Concerned

Subject: **REITERATION ON THE SCHEDULE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE CY 2021 QUARTERLY NATIONWIDE SIMULTANEOUS EARTHQUAKE DRILL**

In connection to the approved NDRRMC Memorandum No. 08, s. 2021 "Conduct of the CY 2021 Quarterly Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill", offices across all levels of the Department and Schools are enjoined to participate in the conduct of quarterly Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED), with schedule as follows:

Quarter	Date	Time
1 st Quarter	11 March 2021	2:00 PM
2 nd Quarter	10 June 2021	09:00 AM
3 rd Quarter	09 September 2021	2:00 PM
4 th Quarter	11 November 2021	09:00 AM

Due to the limitations in the conduct of mass gatherings and in adherence to the COVID-19 required health standards, NSED exercises requiring physical interaction, particularly evacuation drill in DepEd offices and schools are hereby suspended.

However, all DepEd personnel and learners are enjoined to simultaneously practice the **"duck, cover, and hold"** procedure on the set times. Other exercises such as virtual earthquake drills, tabletop, and functional exercises may also be done, while adhering to the minimum public health standards.

To ensure awareness and preparedness on the impending threat of the inevitable occurrence of an earthquake, even in the midst of the pandemic, **Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign in NSED using distant means must be intensified.** Region and Division offices may use the IEC materials provided in the



Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: (+632) 86337203, (+632) 86376207
Email: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depedtayo



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NDRRMC Memorandum No. 71, s. 2020, the IEC for NSED during the COVID-19 pandemic shall highlight the following, among others:

- a. Conduct of earthquake evacuation while adhering to minimum public health standard based on policies and guidelines of the IATF, the DOH, the OCD, the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-PHIVOLCS) and the other relevant organizations.
- b. Develop and update preparedness and response plans with consideration on the situation brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- c. Prepare the emergency survival bag or "Go Bag" with the inclusion of health-related personal protective equipment and items such as face masks and sanitation solutions.
- d. Equip the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management team or similar entities with health-related personal protective equipment and items; and
- e. Promote the gender-sensitivity and inclusiveness in all relevant earthquake preparedness and response activities.

In addition, existing earthquake contingency plans of regional and division offices, and schools shall be updated to incorporate scenarios, mechanisms, and arrangements that are reflective of the current COVID-19 situation. To ensure minimum public health standards in the conduct of such, remote coordination and online workshops are encouraged.

For the post-NSED activities, self-evaluation and processing of the NSED within respective areas of jurisdiction is encouraged and no external evaluators should be mobilized after the conduct of NSED. The Office of Civil Defense (OCD) shall prepare and disseminate an online Exercise Evaluation Guide (EGG), for this matter. Evaluation must be submitted.

Proper documentation and post-activity evaluation of said drill are required. All field offices are advised to make necessary preparations to ensure that the required reports are submitted on time, as indicated in **Annex A**. Also attached is the NDRRMC Memorandum No. 71, s. 2020, for your reference.

For further information, you may contact the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service, 2nd Floor, Mabini Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at drmo@deped.gov.ph.

For immediate and appropriate action.



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ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary

