



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

September 1, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

No. **00417** s. 2021

To: OIC-Chief, CLMD, DepEd Regional Office VIII
Schools Division Superintendents
Divisions of Leyte and Tacloban City
All Others Concerned

PARTICIPATION TO THE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ON THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS WEBINAR ON SAFE SCHOOL RE-OPENING IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

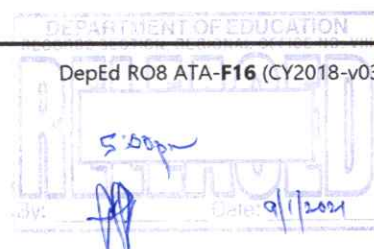
1. This Office has received official communication from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) inviting the identified participants, whose names are found in the enclosure, to attend the **Online International Training on the Joint United Nations Webinar on Safe School Re-Opening in South and Southeast Asia** on **September 2, 2021** via Zoom through a link which will be emailed after the registration.
2. There is **no registration fee**. All expenses incurred relative to the management of the training shall be shouldered by the organizer.
3. All other details of the activity are found in the above-mentioned official communication.
4. For queries, Mr. Alfredo P. Café, EPS, ALS Focal Person, may be reached at alfredo.cafe@deped.gov.ph.
5. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


MA. GEMMA MERCADO LEDESMA
Regional Director

CLMD-APC



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ISO 9001:2015 Certified



DepEd RO8 ATA-F16 (CY2018-v03-r00) Page 1 of 2



Enclosure No. 1 to OM _____, s. 2021 dated August 31, 2021 re: ***Participation to the Online International Training on the Joint United Nations Webinar on Safe School Re-Opening in South and Southeast Asia on September 2, 2021 via Zoom.***

Official Participants

No.	Division	Position	Name of Pax
1.	Curriculum and Learning Management Division, DepEd Regional Office VIII	OIC-Chief	Dr. Rosemarie M. Guino
2.		EPS	Alfredo P. Cafe
3.	Leyte Division	EPS	Marie Joy A. Arias
4.	Tacloban City Division	EPS	Ranulfo I. Baay
Total			4



Department of Education Region VIII <region8@deped.gov.ph>

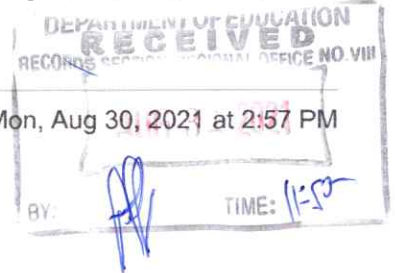
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR IV		026508
Date and Time Received	8/31/21 2:00	Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>
Date and Time Released	01 SEP 2021 8:10	Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>

Fwd: Your kind support to mobilize MOE participation: Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September, 11:00-13:00 (IST)

1 message

Alfredo Cafe <alfredo.cafe@deped.gov.ph>
To: Region VIII Eastern Visayas <region8@deped.gov.ph>
Cc: rosemarie.guino@deped.gov.ph

Mon, Aug 30, 2021 at 2:57 PM



Hi there mam dholor good afternoon po

Forwarded to ORD the communication from the UNESCO relative to the online ASEAN Training, for RD's information and reference

Thank you very much

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ALQUITRAN, Remegio** <r.alquitran@unesco.org>
 Date: Mon, Aug 30, 2021 at 11:52 AM
 Subject: Your kind support to mobilize MOE participation: Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September, 11:00-13:00 (IST)
 To: Alfredo Cafe <alfredo.cafe@deped.gov.ph>, rosemarie.guino@deped.gov.ph <rosemarie.guino@deped.gov.ph>, Marie Joy Arias <maryjoy.arias@deped.gov.ph>, ranulfo.baay001@deped.gov.ph <ranulfo.baay001@deped.gov.ph>
 Cc: AGARAO, Maria Karisma Bea <mk.agarao@unesco.org>, Roa, Karen <k.roa@unesco.org>

Dear DepEd Region VIII Colleagues,

Good day greetings!

This is to cordially invite you Sir Fred, Ma'am Rose, Ma'am Joy and Sir Rani to a joint UN webinar on Safe School Re-opening in South and Southeast Asia.

The details of the webinar is in the below email and should you be interested, you can click the [Register](#) below.

-

Thank you and kind regards,

Redj Alquitran

National Project Officer

UNESCO Jakarta

From: Zakki, Gunawan
Sent: Monday, 30 August 2021 11:06 AM
To: ALQUITRAN, Remegio <r.alquitran@unesco.org>; AGARAO, Maria Karisma Bea <mk.agarao@unesco.org>; Vicente Kijong, Mariani <m.vicente-kijong@unesco.org>; Kurnia, Ade Ayu <aa.kurnia@unesco.org>; Djamhur, Rusyda <r.rusyda@unesco.org>; Surya, Aldi <a.surya@unesco.org>
Subject: FW: Your kind support to mobilize MOE participation: Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September, 11:00-13:00 (IST)
Importance: High

OKO mail 8/31/21

Dear Colleagues,

1. Please register yourself for the event if you are available
2. Please also circulate this invitation to our focal persons at the Ministry of Education/DepEd and the Ministry of Health.

Thank you and best regards,

Zakki

From: Babb, Jenelle <j.babb@unesco.org>

Sent: 30 August 2021 09:16

To: Malik, Zafar <zh.malik@unesco.org>; Sigdel, Shailendra <s.sigdel@unesco.org>; Sun, Lei <l.sun@unesco.org>; Timalcina, Balaram <b.timalcina@unesco.org>; Masood, Huma <h.masood@unesco.org>; Jadav, Sarita <s.jadav@unesco.org>; Yadav, Prashant <pa.yadav@unesco.org>; Choi, Mee Young <my.choi@unesco.org>; Zakki, Gunawan <g.zakki@unesco.org>; Tam, Kar Hung Antony <kh.tam@unesco.org>; Padilla, Danilo <d.padilla@unesco.org>; Matsumoto, Toshiyuki <t.matsumoto@unesco.org>; Shrestha, Prativa <p.shrestha@unesco.org>; Margarete Sachs-Israel <msachs-israel@unicef.org>; Islam, M Shahidul <ms.islam@unesco.org>

Cc: Thaug, Nyi Nyi <nn.thaug@unesco.org>; Sachs-Israel, Margarete <M.Sachs-Israel@unesco.org>

Subject: Your kind support to mobilize MOE participation: Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September, 11:00-13:00 (IST)

Importance: High

Dear colleagues,

I hope that you are all safe and well.

As part of global and regional advocacy around safe return to school, it my pleasure to invite you to the upcoming [Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening - The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September](#), hosted by WHO SEARO, UNICEF EAPRO and ROSA, UNESCO, UNFPA and WFP.

Please see the attached flyer and concept note and kindly [register here](#).

We are looking to engage as many MoE and MoH in the South and Southeast Asia regions on this timely topic and kindly request your assistance in sharing this webinar with the appropriate Ministry officials – at least 1-2 people from each Ministry. Larger countries could also share with state or provincial education officers.

It has been quite an achievement to get all the key UN agencies working together on this two part webinar series. Not only do we hope that the webinar will support to up-date understandings around the safe return to school, but have it also signal a new collaboration around School Health, Nutrition and Well-being, which is the title of the newly established TWG at the Asia-Pacific level, under the LE2030+ group. The purpose of this TWG is to enhance the role of schools in enhancing health, nutrition and well- being; and also to consider how these services may be maintained when schools are closed.

Although we have deliberately not publicly advertised this webinar, participation is of course open to all UNESCO education colleagues in the sub-region. Our main priority is of course Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health staff. If you refer to the attached excel sheet you will see which Ministry staff have already been invited from your country. But we would be pleased if you could forward to other MOE staff who you feel may benefit from participation – perhaps staff in the Planning Section and school health and nutrition experts? Please feel free to reach out to these other staff.

I'd really be very grateful if you can assist us in following up with this email invitation and in disseminating the event with your own team and Ministry colleagues. I look forward to meeting you at the event!

With warm thanks and best wishes for the week ahead,

Jenelle

From: Education 2030 - Bangkok <ed2030.bgk@unesco.org>

Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 2:21 PM

Subject: Invitation to a Joint UN webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance on 2 September, 11:00-13:00 (IST)

Importance: High

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Chief of Section (IQE, UNESCO Bangkok) and Regional Education Advisers (UNICEF ROSA and EAPRO), you are invited to join the first of a **2-part webinar series supported by WHO, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP on Safe School Reopening** focused on the latest evidence and experiences around learning and school health, nutrition and well-being in South and South East Asia.

The webinar will be held on 2 September at 11:00-13:00 (IST) – see the attached flyer for the full list of speakers. [Click here to register.](#)

With evolving knowledge on risk-benefit analysis and recognition of the potentially high risk of harm to the health and well-being of children and adolescents due to prolonged school closures, not least in terms of long-term learning loss, this first webinar will be an information session that presents the current situation in the regions, highlighting common challenges and providing technical updates and guidance in the following areas:

- The impact of school closures in South Asia and South East Asia
- Public health considerations around school reopening
- The latest global guidance and tools on school reopening

This 2-part webinar series builds on an earlier set of webinars on safe school reopening organized by WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA in Oct-Nov 2020 for countries of South and South East Asia Regions. You are receiving this webinar invitation as you have participated in the previous Joint UN webinar series.

Looking forward to seeing you in this upcoming webinar.

Warm regards,

on behalf of the co-chairs of the School Health, Nutrition, Well-being Working Group

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Alfredo P. Cafe
*Education Program Supervisor
ALS, ADM, BSP
DepEd Regional Office 8
Candahug, Palo, Leyte, Philippines*

Contact Numbers:

Mobile: **09068760782 / 09174289183**
e-Mail: alfredo.cafe@deped.gov.ph

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3 attachments

 **Webinar-1 Flyer 2021_25Aug21.pdf**
291K

 **School Re-opening_Joint UN Sessions_Session-1 Concept Note.pdf**
172K

 **MoE MoH Registration list.xls**
67K

Joint UN Webinar on Safe school reopening in South & South-East Asia



Register: bit.ly/JoinUNWebinarSeries

Thursday 02 Sep 2021 at 11.00 AM – 13.00 PM India Time

Programme

Time	Topics (Presenter)
11.00 – 11.10 AM	Opening: Welcome and objectives Neena Raina , WHO-SEARO
11.10 – 11.30 AM	Impact of school closures in South Asia and South-East Asia Jim Ackers , UNICEF-ROSA
11.30 – 11.45 AM	Voices of stakeholders
11.45 – 12.00 PM	Interactions
12.00 – 12.20 PM	Public health considerations in school reopening Rajesh Mehta , WHO-SEARO
12.20 – 12.40 PM	Latest guidance on safe reopening and operations of schools Jenelle Babb , UNESCO Bangkok
12:40 – 12:55 PM	Interactions
12.55 - 13.00 PM	Closing Remarks: Jo Sauvarin , UNFPA APRO

Opening Remarks



Neena Raina
WHO-SEARO

Moderator



Francisco Benavides
UNICEF-EAPRO

Closing Remarks



Jo Sauvarin
UNFPA-APRO

Presenters



Jim Ackers
UNICEF-ROSA



Rajesh Mehta
WHO-SEARO



Jenelle Babb
UNESCO Bangkok





Joint UN Webinars on Safe Re-opening of Schools

UN organizations collaborating for the webinar: WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA; WFP.

Purpose

Knowledge and experience sharing on safe school reopening and joint actions among health and education actors for operations and preparedness.

Rationale

Over last 18 months the COVID-19 pandemic has been associated with overwhelming challenges for countries' health, education and economic activities. The response to addressing the pandemic, including measures like strict lockdowns, puts many restrictions on social and economic activities, and has led to the *prolonged closure of educational institutions at all levels*. Such disruptions have had dire consequences on the learning, health and overall wellbeing of children and adolescents and has created multiple challenges for their parents, caregivers and teachers. Countries in South Asia have been highly affected, with children and adolescents having been away from school for more than a year in countries like Bangladesh, whilst all countries have experienced serious disruptions to learning despite attempts by government and others to reach them through remote learning. Remote learning has been variable in quality and reach, and many of the other benefits that schools offer such as school feeding; counselling, and access to health and protection services have also been seriously compromised by school closures.

With evolving knowledge on risk-benefit analysis and recognition of the potentially high risk of harm to the wellbeing of children and adolescents owing to prolonged school closure vis-a-vis the risk of the infection, the recommendation from UN agencies is to prioritize school reopening as soon as the local outbreak and transmission conditions allow the resumption of routine activities.

Since April 2021 it has also become apparent that there may be new waves of COVID infection and new variants with the possibility of continuous or repeated disruption to education and other services over the next year and beyond. Slow expansion in coverage of COVID-19 vaccination is an additional risk factor. The need to engage with several key actors, parents and caregivers and students themselves has also become increasingly apparent to address their concerns about safety in school setting. The government and stakeholders need to address adequate provisions for infection prevention and control and adherence to protocols to ensure a successful and sustainable return to school. It is also clear that authorities need to look at ways of delivering other school-based services such as school feeding and health even if schools need to be closed from time to time.

Fortunately, all countries are showing a commitment to safe school re-opening and are at different stages of planning and / or implementation. It is critical to follow public health and social measures and to practice recommended protocols for prevention and early detection of infection before and during the resumption of school operations. A range of partners has supported planning processes with government counterparts in the Ministries of Education and Health and have committed to continue the support going forward.

The proposed webinars build on an earlier set of webinars on safe school reopening organized by WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNFPA in October-November 2020 for the countries of South and South-East Asia Regions to share technical guidance and resources, and country-experiences among multiple stakeholders including officials from ministries of education and health. This collaboration has recently expanded, with the inclusion of additional partners with the establishment of a new network for School Health, Nutrition and Well-being under the Learning and Education 2030+ technical Working Group.

UN agencies in the Region in collaboration with partners propose a new set of webinars on safe school reopening with the following objectives:

- Discuss current situation, common challenges and share technical updates on latest guidance and recommendations to address these.
- Facilitate sharing of significant achievements and innovative experiences from selected countries in South Asia and South-East Asia for possible adaptation by other countries



- Identify key actions for the safe reopening of school and collaborative actions that can expedite these processes at the country and regional levels.

Target audience

- Programme Managers (Policy and Technical) from Ministries of Health and Education in member countries
- UN staff in health and education, as well as experts in child protection, WASH, nutrition and school feeding, and gender from regional and country levels
- Representatives from relevant partners agencies working in health and education and allied areas.

There will be two sessions. The first session is for information sharing to update the knowledge, which is detailed below. The second session will include experience sharing among countries and identifying key actions for preparedness and safe school reopening and operations.

Session 1: Joint UN Webinar on Safe School Reopening – The Latest Evidence and Guidance

Date and time: 02 September 2021, 11:00-13:00 (IST)

Registration: bit.ly/JoinUNWebinarSeries

Moderator: Francisco Benavides, UNICEF-EAPRO

1. **Welcome and objectives:** Neena Raina WHO-SEARO 05 Min
2. **Impact of school closures in South Asia and South East Asia:**
Jim Ackers, UNICEF-ROSA: 20 Min
Updates to enhance understanding of multiple adverse implications of prolonged school closure.
3. **Voices of stakeholders:** to understand their concerns: 15 Min

Interactions (Moderator): 15 Min

4. **Public health considerations in school re-opening:**
Rajesh Mehta, WHO: 20 Min
Highlight the current epidemiology; infection prevention and control strategies - risk and mitigation measures during school re-opening.
5. **Guidance on school reopening:**
Jenelle Babb, UNESCO: 20 Min
Share the recent and updated global guidelines, frameworks and operational tools and application in context of local situation and specificities

Interactions (Moderator): 15 Min

6. **Closing remarks:** Jo Sauvarin, UNFPA-APRO