

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR No. __ **12**
Series of 2016

**SUBJECT : TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CREATION OF REGIONAL
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
AFTERCARE, REINTEGRATION AND TRANSFORMATION
SUPPORT FOR RECOVERING DRUG DEPENDENTS (CLUSTER III)**

I. RATIONALE

Pursuant to Section II of Republic Act 9165 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, it specifies that it is the policy of the State to provide effective mechanisms or measures to reintegrate into society individuals who have fallen victims to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable programs of treatment and rehabilitation.

In response to the growing number of drug dependents who have surrendered since the Duterte's administration began its intensified campaign against illegal drugs, the national government agencies including the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) are undertaking convergent efforts to combat illegal drugs and to provide government-wide support treatment and rehabilitation for recovering drug dependents.

The three (3) clusters of intervention were proposed by the concerned government agencies to operationalize the National Rehabilitation Program to enhance the capacities of the recovering drug dependents and to promote a healthy and productive lifestyle:

a. Cluster I: The Department of Health (DOH) thru Asec. Elmer G. Punzalan as the lead agency along with Philippine Drugs Enforcement Agency (PDEA), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine National Police (PNP) and Department of Interior and Local Government – Local Government Unit (DILG-LGU) and Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) in the creation of data base/ profile of the surrenderees.

b. Cluster II: Community Based Rehabilitation Program is headed by Fr. Antonio Labiao, Jr. of Ugnayan ng Barangay at Simbahan (UBAS) along with other line agencies such as PNP, DSWD, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), DILG and DOH.

c. Cluster III: Aftercare, Reintegration and Transformation Support for Recovering Drug Dependents will be led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) along with Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Health (DOH), DOJ-Parole and Probation Administration, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Labor and

Employment (DOLE), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).

As the lead agency in the implementation of Cluster III, there is a need to have a guideline on the creation of a Technical Working Group to synchronize efforts of the Department and member agencies towards an effective and efficient delivery of aftercare services and programs to the recovering drug dependents for their eventual transformation and reintegration in their families and communities and to prevent them from recurrence of drug abuse or relapse.

II. OBJECTIVES

This Terms of Reference aims to provide guidance on the creation of the Regional Technical Working Group for the implementation of aftercare, reintegration and transformation support for recovering the drug dependents (Cluster III).

III. POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

1. The Cluster III RTWG shall be composed of the following member agencies:
 - a. Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP)
 - b. Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
 - c. Department of Agriculture (DA)
 - d. Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)
 - e. Department of Education (DepEd)
 - f. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
 - g. Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
 - h. Department of Health (DOH)
 - i. DOJ-Parole and Probation Administration
 - j. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
 - k. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
 - l. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
 - m. Local Government Units

The DSWD Field Office shall coordinate with the Central Office of the member agencies i.e. National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) for the provision of technical assistance and to attend others matters concerning Cluster III implementation since said agencies have no Regional Offices.

2. The DSWD Regional Director is the Principal Focal Person of the Regional Technical Working Group and the DSWD Assistant Regional Director for Operations shall be the Alternate Focal.
3. The DSWD Regional Director shall convene the Regional Technical Working Group composed of the member agencies as enumerated in number 1.
4. The Regional Technical Working Group shall meet regularly to plan, strategize and pro-act on matters concerning the implementation of aftercare, reintegration and transformation support for the recovering drug dependents. There shall be a regular schedule to be agreed by the members. A special meeting maybe conducted at the discretion of the lead agency, as necessary.

5. The Regional Technical Working Group shall prepare a regional plan of action which shall include the activities to be implemented as well as the programs and services on aftercare.
6. The Regional Technical Working Group shall promote the aftercare programs and services for the recovering drug dependents.
7. The DSWD Field Office as the lead agency of Cluster III shall plan promotional activities on the implementation of aftercare programs and services for the recovering drug dependents.
8. The Protective Services Unit shall serve as the Secretariat of the Regional Technical Working Group.

IV. ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

A. Secretariat

- a. Handle all administrative requirements for the conduct of Technical Working Group meetings, consultations and other relevant activities;
- b. Invite/ confirmation of attendance of member agencies in the Technical Working Group meetings, consultation and among others;
- c. Document all proceedings of meetings and follow-through on agreements reached and other activities related to the roles / functions of the Technical Working Group;
- d. Ensure the documentation and dissemination of proceedings of meetings to Regional Technical Working Group members a week before the schedule of the next meeting
- e. Consolidate accomplishment report of member agencies for submission to Protective Services Bureau (PSB) every 25th of every month.
- f. Perform other tasks and functions as may be required by the Regional Technical Working Group.

B. Regional Technical Working Group

- a. Intensify awareness/advocacy on Cluster III;
- b. Prepare plan of action, guidelines/directions in relation to the implementation of Cluster III.
- c. Synchronize efforts towards the effective and efficient implementation of aftercare programs to the recovering drug dependents and to their families;
- d. Provide guidance, technical assistance and capability building in an integrated manner on matters relating to Cluster III based on their agency's mandate and expertise;
- e. Oversee/ monitor respective implementation to be consistent with its goals and objectives;
- f. Coordinate and facilitate linkage/networking with other National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and other possible partners/stakeholders in the provision/ referral of aftercare programs/ services;
- g. Act as a body in discussing and resolving Cluster III related issues/ complaints/ grievances received from the stakeholders.

V. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Regional Technical Working Group shall meet regularly as agreed by the members.

A special meeting maybe conducted at the discretion of the lead agency, as necessary.

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The DSWD Field Office and member agencies shall conduct monitoring on their respective implementation of aftercare programs/ services to the recovering drug dependents and their families.
- The DSWD Field Office and member agencies shall conduct field monitoring in coordination with the concerned LGUs to validate and monitor the actual and status of the recovering drug dependents.
- The member agencies and LGUs to participate/attend in the conduct of the consultation dialogue, Project Implementation Review (PIR) on the implementation of Cluster III and among others to assess the program implementation and its outcome.

VII. REPORTING

- Each agency shall submit a monthly accomplishment report including documentation and photos to DSWD Field Office every 20th of the succeeding month.
- The Central Office, through the Protective Services Bureau, shall submit the consolidated monthly accomplishment report to the Office of the Secretary copy furnished the Office of the Undersecretary and Assistant Secretary for Operations and Programs Group-Protective Programs and Policy Development and Planning Bureau every 30th of the succeeding month.

VIII. EFFECTIVITY

This Terms of Reference shall take effect immediately.

Issued in Quezon City, this 18th day of Oct. 2016.


JUDY M. TAGUIWALO
Secretary

Certified Copy:


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OIC-Chief, General Services Division