



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center
EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. 925.03.54 • Telefax 927.78.52 • O.D. 929.92.35
WWW.DILG.GOV.PH



March 24, 2017

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
No. 2017-54

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL
MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, DILG REGIONAL
DIRECTORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : 10th WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY (WADD)

Pursuant to Resolution No. 62/139 which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 2007, every 2nd day of April of each year is declared as the "World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). This global event aims primarily to give a voice to millions of individuals worldwide who are undiagnosed, misunderstood, and looking for help to improve their lives so that they can lead full and meaningful lives. With this significant event, the Day's observance would shine a bright light on autism as growing global health crisis.

With this year's theme "**Toward Autonomy and Self-Determination**", the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) recognizes the right of persons with disabilities to independence of person and to individual autonomy (Article 3 of CRPD) Moreover, the CRPD highlights the right of persons with disabilities to legal capacity on equal basis with others and in all aspects of life. Legal capacity is instrumental to the recognition of a person as a human being of full personhood, with the right to take decisions and enter into contracts. However, certain abilities have often been seen as necessary qualifications for full personal autonomy, creating a barrier to full societal inclusion for people with autism.

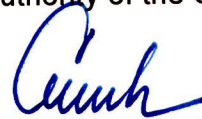
In consonance with the event, the Philippines is joining with the rest of the countries of the world in commemorating WAAD thru the holding of a Light-It-Up-Blue (LIUB) ceremony nationwide. LIUB involves the lighting-up Blue of edifices, landmarks, monuments, churches, schools, including homes, and other related infrastructures. The country's commemoration will be held simultaneously nationwide on April 3, a resetting of the April 2 schedule as it falls on a Sunday. A symbolic ceremony will be held on said date at the SM Mall of Asia in Pasay City, where its iconic globe will be lighted blue at 6:00 in the evening.

In view of this, all concerned are requested to extend full support to the above-mentioned event by hanging of streamers in conspicuous places, conducting fitting activities and illuminating the office buildings and landmarks with blue lights in taking part of the "Light it up Blue" on of April 3, 2016 at 6:00 in the evening.

For more information you may contact Mr. Rizalio R. Sanchez or Mr. Jayme J. Mariño of NCDCA thru telephone nos. 951-5013, 932-6422 local 111 and Mobile nos 0920-9062306 and 0920-9022296.

All Regional Directors are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Circular and extend necessary assistance.

By the Authority of the Secretary:



AUSTERE A. PANADERO
Undersecretary for Local Government

