NATIONAL ANTI-ILLEGAL FISHING SUMMIT

Memorandum Circular No. 2018-175
October 10, 2018

RELEASED Signature Date V. DA

1.0 Background

Illegal fishing remains to be the scourge of suffering in many coastal communities. The most common violations include intrusion of commercial fishing vessels inside municipal waters, the use of dynamite fishing and the use of poison in fishing. Other violations such as, use of fine mesh nets, destruction of marine habitat, illegal trade of aquatic wildlife species, marine pollution and poaching remain as concerns in certain parts of the country. Despite the penalties stipulated in the Philippine Fisheries Code, violators remain unabated for complex reasons that vary from social, economic, political, technical, geographic, and cultural in nature.

2.0 Purpose

This Circular enjoins the active participation of all local government units and DILG officials and personnel during the activity.

3.0 Scope/Coverage

All Coastal City and Municipal Mayors, ARMM Regional Governor, and other concerned officials.

4.0 Policy Content and Guidelines

- 4.1. The Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) will be conducting the first National Anti-Illegal Fishing Summit which will serve as an opportunity for the President of the Republic of the Philippines to provide his guidance on combatting illegal fishing in the country.
- 4.2. The objectives of the summit are as follows: a) to present a national picture of illegal fishing situation in the country and current initiatives undertaken to address said issue; b) to clarify roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, c) to agree on common strategic course of action, and d) listen to the President's guidance on addressing Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (IUUF).
- 4.3. All Local Chief Executives of coastal cities and municipalities nationwide are, likewise, enjoined to actively participate in the summit which will be held on October 9-10, 2018 at the Forum PICC, Juan Arellano, Pasay, Metro Manila.

5.0 Reference

5.1 Letter from Department of Agriculture-Undersecretary for Fisheries and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources National Director

6.0 Approving Authority

USEC EDUARDO M. AÑO Officer-In-Charge, DILG

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7.0 Feedback

For other related queries, kindly contact the Fisheries Information Management Center of DA-BFAR at Tel No. (02) 287-4868, or thru e-mail address: bfar.fimc.co@gmail.com