



MC No. 16, s. 2020

## MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

**FOR :** HEADS OF CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES; DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS, AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS; GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS WITH ORIGINAL CHARTERS; AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

**SUBJECT :** ASEAN Month Observance and ASEAN Awareness Promotion amidst the COVID-19 Crisis

Pursuant to Proclamation No. 282 dated July 31, 2018 (Amending Proclamation No. 1008 dated May 21, 1997) declaring the month of August of every year as “ASEAN Month,” all government agencies are hereby enjoined to initiate and implement programs and activities to help generate awareness and public support in promoting the observance of ASEAN Month.

As we adapt to the “new normal” brought about by the current COVID-19 crisis, agencies are encouraged to have simpler ASEAN Month commemoration through various online activities such as, but not limited to, webinars, online forums, messages/greetings from agency heads, infographic campaigns, and/or virtual flag raising ceremonies and exhibits. Collaborations among agencies are also suggested for better and more inclusive initiatives.

Several activities spearheaded by different agencies have also been lined up to commemorate the 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN (see attached Notional Calendar of ASEAN Awareness Activities). Said activities include an anniversary tribute video presentation for the 53<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Day Flag Raising Ceremony on 8 August 2020; a promotional video series dubbed *Ako at Ang ASEAN* to be presented every Monday of August 2020; and a webinar series called *Sama-Sama ASEAN* to be held every Thursday of August 2020. Further details on the activities may be found at the DFA website ([www.dfa.gov.ph](http://www.dfa.gov.ph)).

Everyone is encouraged to extend support/participate in the activities. Agencies may also conduct other online activities in their respective offices to raise ASEAN awareness among their officials and employees, and, if possible, among their clients.

Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani

Considering the current situation, the activities for the flag-raising ceremonies for the month of August pursuant to CSC Memorandum Circular No. 13, s. 2019 may be temporarily scaled down to just the singing of the ASEAN Anthem.

Agencies in areas under enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), modified enhance community quarantine (MECQ), and general community quarantine (GCQ) are enjoined to conduct flag raising ceremonies virtually, in compliance with the IATF *Omnibus Guidelines in the Implementation of Community Quarantine*<sup>1</sup>. For Agencies in areas under modified general community quarantine (MGCQ), physical flag-raising ceremonies may be held, provided that strict preventive measures and health protocols are observed in accordance with IATF Guidelines. Agencies are also encouraged to display the ASEAN Flag in their respective lobbies for the whole month of August.



**ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA**  
Chairperson

03 August 2020

---

<sup>1</sup> *Mass gatherings, which include community assemblies, are still prohibited in areas under ECQ, MECQ, and GCQ. Mass gatherings in areas under MGCQ may be allowed provided that participants are limited to 50% of the seating or venue capacity.*