



MC No. 5, s. 2011

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**

**TO : ALL HEADS OF CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES; DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs); GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS (GOCCs) WITH ORIGINAL CHARTERS; AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs)**

**SUBJECT: 2011 Women's Month Celebration**

Presidential Proclamation No. 224 and 227, and Republic Act No. 6949 provide for the yearly observance of the month of March as Women's Month.

This year's theme is "*Magna Carta of Women, Philippine CEDAW: In support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*."

The objectives for this year's women's month are:

1. To increase public awareness on the Millennium Development Goals and the Magna Carta of Women, the Philippine CEDAW; and
2. To serve as venue for synergizing efforts to address gender issues in the MDGs and develop strategies and programs to address them.

This year's celebration is anchored on the importance of Republic Act No. 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women, the national translation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women or the CEDAW, to the achievement of the Eight (8) Millennium Development Goals, namely:


- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
- Goal 5: Improve maternal health
- Goal 6: Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

*In a Race to Serve: Responsive, Accessible, Courteous and Effective Public Service*

All government agencies are enjoined to come up with the programs, projects or activities along with the general theme for the celebration. In particular, the Philippine Commission on Women encourages the agencies to partner with other government agencies and non-government organizations to organize activities on the following topics throughout the year:

- **On Gender and Poverty (Goal 1):** Determining the target poor and identify convergence of innovative interventions, poverty alleviation, food security and asset democratization;
- **On Gender and Education (Goal 2):** Enhancing early childhood care and development towards achieving universal primary education;
- **On Gender and Health (Goals 4,5,6):** Promotion of the use of birth planning;
- **On Gender and Environment (Goal 7):** Addressing climate change vulnerabilities of women and promoting the participation of women in disaster risk preparedness;
- **On Women's Empowerment (Goal 3):** Women's participation in politics and decision making, prevention of trafficking of women and children; and
- **On Global Partnership for Development and Financing the MDGs (Goal 8):** Enhancements of GAD Budgeting and Planning Guidelines, maximizing public-private and ODA partnerships in the attainment of the MDGs.

Please submit a calendar of activities by February 25, 2011 to the Philippines Commission on Women (PCW) through email address [pcw2011womensmonth@yahoo.com](mailto:pcw2011womensmonth@yahoo.com) or fax number (02)736-4449, for consolidation and dissemination.

  
FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc  
Chairman

24 FEB 2011