



MC No. 20, s. 2021

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

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

SUBJECT : **2021 NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK**

December 4 to 10 of each year marks the celebration of the National Human Rights Consciousness Week (NHRCW) in the country as declared under Republic Act No. 9201 or the National Human Rights Consciousness Week Act of 2002.

All government agencies, including government-owned and-controlled corporations, shall celebrate the week through simple and appropriate ceremonies and activities to make the people aware of their basic human rights in relation to the functions and services offered by the concerned government agencies and instrumentalities. Learning institutions, both public and private, are mandated to observe human rights week to propagate, particularly among the students, a human rights culture that aims at sustainable development in the country.

The kick-off activity is set on December 1, 2021 and the weeklong celebration culminates on December 10, the anniversary day of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights being celebrated as the International Human Rights Day. The following are the activities to be participated in by all government agencies:

A. Common to all agencies

- Physical display of a celebratory streamer for the 2021 National Human Rights Consciousness Week and the 73rd Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), as well as its display on official websites, electronic platforms, and social media platforms of government agencies;
- Passing of the lighted candle by the representatives of the Inter Agency Committee (IAC) members thru Audio Visual Presentation highlights the opening of the National Human Rights Consciousness Week during the kick-off activity on December 1, 2021;

Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani

- One-minute video message of each IAC member on accomplishment and commitments to human rights as a solidarity message;
- Simultaneous Flag Raising Ceremony and Recitation of Panata sa Karapatang Pantao on December 6, 2021;
- Inter-agency forum or public dialogue discussing the importance and primacy of as well as the respect for human rights; and
- Search for the First ever Gawad Karapatang Pantao which aims to recognize the contribution of government agencies/public servants in the promotion of human rights initiatives for the past three (3) years.

B. Agency-based activities

Agencies are to initiate various celebratory activities that shall raise the awareness of their own employees and clientele on their human rights in relation to the services of their agencies.

C. Celebratory activities by attached agencies and in the field

Similar activities shall be spearheaded by attached agencies of national government agencies, as well as by regional and provincial offices of member-agencies and partners for the 2021 National Human Rights Consciousness Week celebration.

For more information, you may coordinate with the **Advocacy & Information Campaign Division, Human Rights Education and Promotion Office, Commission on Human Rights, Philippines** at telephone numbers (02) 8927-6225, (02) 8282-1876 or through email at chrp.hrepo@gmail.com. Agencies are likewise advised to visit the official Facebook Page of the Commission at <https://www.facebook.com/chr.govph>.


ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA
Chairperson

23 November 2021