



Republic of the Philippines

Philippine Statistics Authority

Reference No. 20SS01-078

PSA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2020-20

TO : The Heads of Departments, Bureaus, Offices, and Instrumentalities of the National Government, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations, State Universities and Colleges, Local Government Units, and the Private Sector

SUBJECT : Celebration of the 31st National Statistics Month and 3rd World Statistics Day in October 2020

DATE : 13 October 2020

1. Purpose

This Memorandum Circular is issued to enjoin all agencies of the government, local government units, academic institutions, state universities and colleges, and the private sector at the national and subnational levels to actively participate in and support the celebration of the **31st National Statistics Month (NSM)** and **3rd World Statistics Day (WSD)** in **October 2020**.

2. Legal basis

The annual observance of the NSM is pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 647, "Declaring the Month of October of Every Year as the National Statistics Month," issued on September 20, 1990 by then President Corazon C. Aquino. Meanwhile, the first WSD was celebrated based on the Resolution adopted by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on 3 June 2010. Following the success of the first WSD, the UN General Assembly decided to celebrate the second WSD on 20 October 2015 and the succeeding WSD every five (5) years on 20 October.

3. Objectives

The NSM aims to: (a) promote, enhance, and instill nationwide awareness and appreciation of the importance and value of statistics to different sectors of society; and (b) elicit the cooperation and support of the general public in upgrading the quality and standards of statistics in the country.

In consonance with the 31st NSM celebration, the WSD will be conducted by the Philippine Statistical System (PSS) to serve as an advocacy event to



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further support the work of statisticians across different settings, cultures and domains, as well as to promote public knowledge and accessibility to timely, reliable, and quality statistics for evidence-based and efficient decision-making.

4. Theme

31st NSM: **“Bridging digital gaps: Making information available to all”**
3rd WSD: **“Connecting the world with data we can trust”**

These themes may be translated into other major Philippine languages. Depending on the focus and direction of its statistical activities, an agency or region may choose to have its own sub-theme.

5. Suggested activities

Activities in support of the NSM and WSD may be undertaken by an organization, university/college, or region in accordance with the capabilities of the participating units/regions with due consideration to prevailing quarantine levels in the regions/provinces, and existing local government unit (LGU) guidelines.

Activities to be conducted may include webinars, online conferences, online quizzes/contests, audio-visual presentations (AVP), streamers, dashboard, and other digital display as well as publication of statistical reports, indicators, and other relevant information, among others, with particular emphasis on the theme and the agency's/region's sub-theme, if any.

Furthermore, areas under the Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) or areas that are COVID¹-free may proceed with how they normally celebrate the NSM, subject to health standards. Activities such as, but not limited to, symposia, workshops, orientation seminars, and exhibits may be conducted provided that the guidelines issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), and respective LGUs are observed and the number of participants do not exceed 50 percent of the seating or venue capacity.³

Participating organizations, universities/colleges, and units of the government are requested to upload updates on their 31st NSM and 3rd WSD activities, and other promotional materials on their respective websites throughout the month of October following the prescribed format to be provided by PSA.

5. Coordination of activities at the national level

¹ Refers to Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

³ Per Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of 16 July 2020

To oversee and coordinate the implementation of the various activities and programs to be undertaken during the month-long celebration, the Steering Committee for the 31st NSM has been established with the following composition:

Chair: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

Vice-Chair: Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) – 31st NSM Host

Members: *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP)
Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
Department of Education (DepEd)
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)
Department of Health (DOH)
Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
Department of National Defense (DND)
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
Department of Tourism (DOT)
Department of Transportation (DOTr)
Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA)
National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
Philippine Statistical Association, Inc. (PSAI)
Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute (PSRTI)
Senate Economic Planning Office (SEPO)
Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
University of the Philippines Los Baños, Institute of Statistics (UPLB INSTAT)
University of the Philippines School of Statistics (UPSS)

Various subcommittees with specific terms of reference shall also be established, with the PSA as Chair. The PSA technical staff shall provide secretariat support to the Steering Committee and subcommittees.

6. Coordination of activities at the local level

For the regional NSM celebration, the Regional Statistics Committees (RSCs) are hereby designated as the coordinating bodies for all regional NSM activities. The PSA Regional Statistical Services Offices (RSSOs) shall provide technical and administrative support to their respective RSCs.

7. Conduct of agency activities

Everyone is enjoined to support the WSD and the nationwide NSM activities in mobilizing the PSS towards coming up with more innovative and effective ways of generating and disseminating vital information needed by the


government, particularly in mitigating the impact and controlling the spread of the COVID-19 as well as pump priming the economy.

National line agencies are enjoined to issue special orders/circulars, through their websites, to solicit the participation of their field/local offices/bureaus/attached agencies in the celebration of the NSM and WSD. Administrators of state universities and colleges are encouraged to issue announcements relating to the 31st NSM and 3rd WSD celebration to the faculty and students. Private sector organizations, on the other hand, are encouraged to take part and cooperate in the conduct of the various activities in line with the NSM and WSD celebration and coordinate activities geared towards the improvement of statistical knowledge and awareness. Whenever necessary, the PSA Undersecretary shall issue additional guidelines for the successful conduct of both events.



KARL KENDRICK T. CHUA
Acting Socioeconomic Planning Secretary
and Chairperson, PSA Board

Attested by:


DENNIS S. MAPA, Ph.D.
Undersecretary
National Statistician and Civil Registrar General
and Chairperson, 31st NSM Steering Committee