

For a more effective and efficient implementation of the Quality Assurance Program of the Department, and to rationalize the activities of the Quality Assurance Units (QAUs) from the Central and Regional Offices, Department Order No. 18, series of 1994, amending D.O. No. 26, series of 1990, D.O. No. 155, series of 1996 and D.O. No. 68, series of 2004, reactivating D.O. No. 169, series of 1991, are hereby amended as follows, for the guidance of all concerned:

- 1. The QAUs shall be composed of engineers from the Bureau of Research and Standards (BRS), Bureau of Construction (BOC), Bureau of Design (BOD) and Regional Offices who have undergone the required QAU training.
- 2. During project assessments, each QAU shall be composed of:

One (1) Engineer III or II from BRS; One (1) Engineer III or II from BOC/BOD; and,

- One (1) Engineer III of II from Boc/bob, and,
- One (1) Engineer III or II from Regional Office.
- 3. Each QAU shall be directly reporting to the QAU Steering Committee (QAUSC) composed of the Assistant Secretary in-charge of the Bureau of Research and Standards as Chairman, and the Directors of BRS, BOD and BOC as members. The BRS shall be the over-all coordinator of the QAU operations.
- 4. QAU assessments should cover at least 10% of projects implemented by the Department in its regular budget. QAUs may also assess projects whose budgets come from the other agencies but implemented by the DPWH. Assessment shall be carried out on all project categories, including roads, bridges, school and public buildings, flood control, water supply, and farm-to-market roads.
- 5. Dedicated QAU Teams to assess specific programs, e.g., SONA projects, and as requested by lending institutions may be created whenever necessary.
- 6. At the end of each assessment period, the QAUs shall submit to the Secretary, thru the respective Assistant Secretaries for Operations the reports on the assessed projects, within fifteen (15) days from completion of field inspection.
- 7. To validate/verify reports submitted by the QAUs, DPWH Validation Teams shall be dispatched. The creation of the said Validation Teams shall be covered by a separate Special Order.

This Order supersedes previous issuances inconsistent herewith and takes effect immediately.

Officer-in-Charge



WIN7U00204