



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
CENTRAL OFFICE
Manila



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DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM)

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11/15/2023

FOR / TO : SENIOR UNDERSECRETARY
UNDERSECRETARIES
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
REGIONAL DIRECTORS
BUREAU DIRECTORS
SERVICE DIRECTORS
HEADS OF UPMOs
DISTRICT ENGINEERS
HEADS OF ATTACHED AGENCIES
OTHERS CONCERNED
This Department

For information and guidance, attached is a copy of **National Anti-Poverty Commission–Persons with Disabilities Sectoral Council (NAPC-PWDSC) Resolution No. 2023-01** duly approved during its 2nd Quarter Council Meeting on June 27-July 01, 2023, entitled: **“A RESOLUTION ON HIRING OF ONSITE AND/OR ONLINE FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER/S DURING ADVOCACY EVENTS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES”**.

A copy of the said Resolution may also be downloaded from the DPWH website: <http://dpwhweb>. If an office cannot access the DPWH website, a hard copy may be obtained from the Records Management Division, HRAS, upon request.

For dissemination to all concerned.

MARICHU A. PALAFOX, CESO II
Assistant Secretary for Support Services

Encl: As stated

cc: Office of the Secretary

10.1.4 JVL/CDP/VGV



Office of the President of the Philippines
NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SECTORAL COUNCIL

Resolution No. 2023-01

A RESOLUTION ON HIRING OF ONSITE AND/OR ONLINE FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER/S DURING ADVOCACY EVENTS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

WHEREAS, Article II Section 10 of the 1987 Philippines Constitution, in the Declaration of Principles and State Policies, mandates that the State shall promote social justice in all phases of national development where it is the policy of the State to protect and promote the physical, moral, social and economic well-being of Persons with Disabilities;

WHEREAS, Article II Section 24 of the 1987 Philippines Constitution, in the Declaration of Principles and State Policies, mandates that the State recognizes the vital role of communication and information in nation-building;

WHEREAS, the Philippine government affirmed its commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) by ratifying it on April 15, 2008 where the CRPD emphasized the importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant strategies of Sustainable Development;

WHEREAS, Goal 3 of the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, endorsed by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), states the enhance access to the physical environment, public transportation, knowledge, information and communication;

WHEREAS, Section 2(a) of Republic Act No. 7277, known as "An Act Providing For The Rehabilitation, Self-Development And Self-Reliance Of Disabled Person And Their Integration Into The Mainstream Of Society And For Other Purposes", states that Persons with Disabilities are part of the Philippine society, thus the Senate shall give full support to the improvement of the total well-being of disabled persons and their integration into the mainstream of society, and was approved on 24 March 1992;

WHEREAS, as defined in Section 4(g) of Republic Act No. 7277, auxiliary aids and services include qualified interpreters or other effective methods of delivering materials to individuals with hearing impairments;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10070, known as "An Act Establishing Institutional Mechanism To Ensure The Implementation Of Programs And Services For Persons With Disabilities In Every Province, City and Municipality, Amending Republic Act No. 7277, Otherwise Known As The Magna Carta For Disabled Persons, as Amended. And For Other Purposes, was approved on 06 April 2010;

WHEREAS, Rule II of the IRR of Republic Act No. 10070 states that "Persons with Disabilities are part of the Philippine society, and thus the State shall give full support to the



Office of the President of the Philippines
NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SECTORAL COUNCIL

improvement of their total well-being and their integration into the mainstream of society. They have the same rights as other people to take their proper place in society. The main objective of RA 10070 is to ensure that policies, programs and services for persons with disabilities are implemented at local level for them to fully participate in building an inclusive society for all”;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10524, also known as “An Act Expanding The Positions Reserved For Persons With Disability, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7277, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Magna Carta for Persons with Disability” was approved on 23 April 2013;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Republic Act No. 11106, known as “An Act Declaring The Filipino Sign Language As The National Sign Language Of The Filipino Deaf And The Official Sign Language Of Government In All Transactions Involving The Deaf, And Mandating Its Use In Schools, Broadcast Media, And Workplaces”, states that the Filipino Sign Language (FSL) shall be recognized, promoted, and supported as the medium of official communication in all transactions involving the deaf, and as the language of instruction of deaf education, without the prejudice to the use of other forms of communication depending on individual choice or preference;

WHEREAS, Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11106 states that all national agencies including government-owned or –controlled corporations (GOCCs), and local government units (LGUs) are hereby directed to use FSL as the medium of official communication in all public transactions involving the deaf. Qualified FSL interpreters and accessible materials shall be provided whenever necessary or requested during fora, conferences, meetings, cultural events, sports competitions, community affairs, and activities conducted by government agencies and GOCCs;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11291, also known as the “Magna Carta for the Poor” which was signed into law last 12 April 2019, states that it is the declared policy of the State to uplift the standard of living and quality of life of the poor and provide them with sustained opportunities for growth and development; and

WHEREAS, Rule III of the Implementing Rules And Regulations of Executive Order No. 417 entitled: “Directing The Implementation Of The Economic Independence Program For Persons With Disabilities (PWDs)” says that the State shall ensure that persons with disabilities are given equal opportunities to attain economic independence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, the NAPC-Persons with Disabilities Sector, being an advocate of inclusive and participatory governance, recommends the mandatory hiring of qualified onsite or online FSLI and/or captioner during all advocacy events, trainings, meetings, webinars, forums, and information dissemination activities at all levels of government agencies;

RESOLVED FUTHER, this resolution shall be cross-cutting, including COVID-19 response and recovery programs and essential health care programs and activities (*e.g., mental health care for deaf children and adults, among others*);



Office of the President of the Philippines
NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SECTORAL COUNCIL

RESOLVED FURTHER, qualified FSLI may be defined as the recommended and/or approved FSLI by the deaf delegate/s or as governed by law; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, reasonable and justifiable standard rates and guidelines on hiring FSL interpreters must be adhered;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Resolution 2023-01 issued by the NAPC – Persons with Disabilities Sectoral Council on hiring FSLIs be cascaded as widely as possible to the constituents of the Council and to other government agencies.

Unanimously approved during the conduct of 2nd Quarter Council Meeting of NAPC-Persons with Disabilities Sectoral Council held on June 27 to July 01, 2023 at Red Hotel, Cubao, Quezon City.

JOCELYN ROSE MARIE CRIS C. GARCIA
Sectoral Representative

ABNER N. MANLAPAZ
Council Member, NCR

MAUREEN AVA G. MATA
Council Member, NCR

AVELINO J. TOMAS
Council Member, CAR

JOSEPHINE S. DE VERA
Council Member, Region I

AMALIA A. DECENA
Council Member, Region II

MARIA LUISA T. RONQUILLO
Council Member, Region III

ROMUALDO C. SAN PASCUAL
Council Member, Region IV-A

ARLENE D. SATUITO
Council Member, Region V

WENIFREDO G. ALMARIO
Council Member, Region IX


MELAGROS M. MAQUILING
Council Member, Region X



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FEBE LYBAI A. MATTHEWS
Council Member, Region XI


DARLITO S. PALERMO
Council Member, Region XI


MARCELO F. MONGKIL
Council Member, Region XII


HAZEL D. BUAL
Council Member, Region X


SUHARTO S. HAYUDINI
Council Member, BARMM