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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**

March 7, 2018

**CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
NO. 47-2018

To: All Deputy Commissioners  
All Directors and Division Chiefs  
All District/Port Collectors  
And Others Concerned

**Subject: 2018 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC)**

Attached is the Memorandum of Director Alvin P. Diaz, Central Administration Office, DOF regarding the **2018 NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION (NWMC), MARCH 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2018.**

For your information.

For record purposes, please confirm the dissemination of this circular throughout your offices within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof.

*Isidro S Lapeña*



Bureau of Customs  
ISIDRO S LAPEÑA  
Commissioner  
18-03895

**ISIDRO S LAPEÑA, PhD, CSEE**  
Commissioner *SL*  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** ALL HEADS OF BUREAUS AND ATTACHED AGENCIES  
(See Distribution List)

**ATTENTION :** GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) FOCAL POINTS

**FROM :** [Signature]  
Director **ALVIN P. DIAZ**  
Central Administration Office

**SUBJECT :** 2018 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC)  
March 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018

**DATE :** 26 February 2018

Please be informed that pursuant to Presidential Proclamation Nos. 224 and 227, series of 1988 and Republic Act 6949 s. 1990, declaring the month of March as National Women's Month (NWM), all government agencies are once again enjoined to participate actively in the celebration of the 2017 National Women's Month. This year's theme is "WE Make Change Work for Women".

Elements of the theme:

- WE stands for Women's Empowerment
- Make Change Work = MCW = Magna Carta of Women
- Change - also means Compassionate and Harmonized Actions and Networks for Gender Equality
- We / us or "kami / tayo" in Filipino

**OBJECTIVES:**

The 2018 celebration aims to:

1. **inform and engage** women as stakeholders of government programs and services – to promote citizen-centric governance and make "change" a conscious effort to know, understand, and provide what ALL citizens need;
2. **create and facilitate** platforms to discuss good practices, gaps, challenges, and commitments in pursuing gender and development (GAD) – to strengthen implementation of the Magna Carta of Women; and

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3. inspire and empower women and girls to be agents of change – to contribute in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women. In support of the 2017 National Women's Month Celebration, the DOF shall undertake the following activities:
  - I. Display event's streamer bearing 2018 NWMC logo in DOF Gate for the whole month of March 2018
  - II. Issue Memorandum to Bureaus and Attached Agencies enjoining participation to 2018 NWM celebration
  - III. PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF IEC MATERIALS

Section 26 of the Magna Carta of Women (Right to Information) provides that "Access to information regarding policies on women, including programs, projects, and funding outlays that affect them, shall be ensured. "Relative thereto, the DOF-GFPS shall produce flyers containing information on the 2017 NWMC for distribution to DOF employees, subject to approval of the DOF-GFPS.

**IV. Announcement of National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) in Flag Raising Ceremony on March 5, 2018 (Monday) at DOF Grounds**

The National Women's Month Celebration shall be announced during the Flag Raising Ceremony on March 5, the Monday before the start of Women's Month. The objective of this event is to enjoin DOF officials and employees to join the national celebration and to support the GAD initiatives of DOF. Flyers on the Magna Carta of Women and the 2018 NMWC shall be distributed to the attendees of the Flag Raising Ceremony, along with the announcement of the 2018 NWMC activities.

**V. Online Advocacy: #JuanaSays**

First initiated by PCW in 2015, Juana Says is a daily dose of inspirational quotes of Filipino women from different fields or profession. Personalities who will be invited to share their inspiring words include heads of government agencies, private corporations/companies, celebrities and artists, women from various sectors (e.g. rural, IP, Moro, youth, formal employment, entrepreneurs), among others.

**VI. Conduct agency specific activities to celebrate the 2018 NWM:**

**1. Women Inspiring Women Forum**

**Date and Venue: TBA**

This event is a gathering of women leaders of DOF, its Bureaus and Attached Agencies to celebrate women's journey and share inspiring stories of change as leaders in their chosen fields and to encourage their fellow women to be empowered change agents. This will also serve as a venue for women to inspire and appreciate each other, and create an environment supportive of each other.

Women officials of DOF, women Heads of Bureaus and Attached Agencies shall be invited as the guests of honor. Participants shall be selected GAD Focal Points and representative from DOF, Bureaus and Attached Agencies.

Additional guidelines may be issued by the DOF-GFPS, as needed.

**2. Women Empowerment**

This event will feature workshops that will empower women on various areas such as personal grooming and livelihood activities. Participants shall be selected DOF personnel.

**3. Lecture on Women's Health**

**4. Immersion Program for DOF-GFPS, its Bureaus and Attached Agencies (April or May 2018)**

This is a gender-related capacity development program for the DOF - GAD Focal Point System to include GAD Focal Points of Bureaus and Attached Agencies, GFIs and SSIs. The objective of the program is for the GAD Focal Points to participate actively and to experience firsthand the programs/projects undertaken by Local Government Units related to gender and development of their constituents to have better appreciation of the said programs.

This will be held tentatively for three (3) days in Davao, a province identified by the Philippine Commission on Women as a GAD learning hub. Sharing best practices on GAD and Seminar on Micro Health Insurance shall be attended by employees of BLGF, BTr, BIR, BOC, who are in the regional and district offices. This is also a venue where GAD Focal Points of the DOF Family may distribute leaflets showing their agency mandates and program thrusts to inform local clients and stakeholders of their respective agencies' programs, in consonance with the theme of the NWMC 2018.

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Details of the program to be supplied later.

Officers and members of the DOF - GFPS shall attend this program, including GAD Focal Points of Bureaus, Attached Agencies, GFIs and SSIs.

Your agencies may conduct other relevant activities in celebration of the 2018 NWM. All costs that will be incurred shall be charged against the 2018 GAD Budget of respective agencies.

For further details, please visit the PCW Website at [www.pcw.gov.ph](http://www.pcw.gov.ph) for PCW-led activities or contact Ms. Maria Carmela P. Romerosa, DOF-GFPS, at tel. no. 525-0244 for DOF specific activities.

Thank you once again for your support in the DOF GAD initiatives. Happy Women's Month.

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