

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 14, 2008

DepEd builds armchairs with help from differently-able persons

The Department of Education (DepEd) has again tapped the services of the National Federation of Cooperatives of Persons with Disability or NFCPWD for the manufacture and delivery of an additional 115,384 units of armchairs to selected public secondary schools nationwide.

“The move is part of DepEd efforts to give the differently-able sector of our society a chance to show their capability by supplying our requirement for quality school furniture,” Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said.

The NFCPWD is a federation of twelve primary cooperatives in the country – seven in Luzon, two in Visayas, and three in Mindanao. These cooperatives were established to produce school chairs and desks.

Beginning in 1998, the General Appropriations Act (GAA) has allocated ten per cent of the total budget for the procurement of desks and armchairs sourced from differently-able persons. Now at P900 million, P90 million, is contracted to NFCPWD.

Lapus said, “We not only improve the quality of school furniture, we also provide decent livelihood for our differently-able workers as well.”

The Education Chief reiterated, “DepEd sees to it that these projects which are vital to the education of our children are contracted only to reputable organizations with established track record.”

The National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (NCWDP-DSWD) has certified that NFCPWD is the only umbrella organization of cooperatives of differently-able persons operating in the country. It is also the only secondary-level cooperative of differently-able persons engaged in the manufacture of quality school desks and chairs.

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