



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education



MAR 05 2010

DepEd ORDER

No. **19** s. 2010

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau/Centers/Service/Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE (ICO)

Currently, the Department relies on fragmented and ill-defined mechanism governing international transactions which sometimes result to duplication of actions or activities among different Offices/Units or even of inaction of requests of international bodies/organizations.

The need for the Department to establish a dedicated office for international cooperation has been highlighted with its hosting of the 45th and 5th ASED Meeting. While the event was handled by different DepEd Offices, there was no defined Unit in the Central Office that served as the central and focal coordinative unit.

In view of these and other concerns, the **International Cooperation Office (ICO)** is hereby created to oversee international concerns. It shall perform the following functions:

1. Serve as clearing house for all international transactions within the Department including bilateral and multilateral cooperation;
2. Act as a focal point for DepEd in the planning and coordinating of international and regional programmes and activities of SEAMEO, APEC, ASEAN, USAID, AUSAID, WB, UNESCO and other UN bodies;
3. Coordinate bilateral and multilateral cooperation between Philippines and other countries including international organizations;
4. Enhance Philippine participation and cooperation in international bilateral and multilateral programs on education;
5. Coordinate agreements/understanding between other countries related to education and make representations to the Department of Foreign Affairs
6. Coordinate visits of dignitaries and delegates from other countries to DepEd.

Due to the importance and high level involvement of the Department in international commitments and cooperation in educational programs, the **ICO** shall be headed by an Undersecretary.

This Order shall take effect immediately. All other existing orders and/or memoranda inconsistent with this Order are superseded and therefore deemed rescinded.

For information and guidance of all concerned.



JESLI A. LAPUS
Secretary

Reference:
None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS & OFFICES
OFFICIALS
PROGRAMS
PROJECTS