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**Kagawaran ng Edukasyon**  
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

**DepEd Task Force COVID-19**  
**MEMORANDUM No. 4**  
13 March 2020

**For: Regional Directors**  
**Schools Division Superintendents**  
**2020 NSPC and NFOT Organizers and Coordinators**  
**All Concerned**

**Attn: Office of the Undersecretary for Legal Affairs**  
**Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations,**  
**Employee Welfare, Personnel, and DEACO**  
**Office of the Undersecretary for Curriculum and**  
**Instruction**  
**Bureau of Curriculum and Development**  
**Administrative Service**  
**Asset Management Division**  
**Central Security and Safety Office**

**Subject: TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR**  
**NSPC AND NFOT DELEGATES**  
**STILL IN CAGAYAN AND ISABELA**

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In view of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's approval of the imposition of Stringent Social Distancing Measures in the National Capital Region (NCR) as proposed by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), which include, among others, the **suspension of land, domestic air, and domestic sea travel to and from Metro Manila beginning March 15, 2020 00:00H until April 14, 2020 23:59H**, the following guidelines are hereby issued to all concerned officials, participants, and attendees of the National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) and National Festival of Talents (NFOT) who are still in Cagayan and Isabela:

1. DepEd is making sure that all concerned will have a safe and convenient trip back to their respective homes;
2. All concerned must be able to leave Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and Ilagan, Isabela the soonest to be able to reach Metro Manila and **depart before 00:00H of March 15, 2020** to their home, school or office destinations



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**Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)**

*(Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers' Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO))*

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City  
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: +63286337203, +63286376207  
Email: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depeditayo

- (OUCI to coordinate, particularly BCD);
3. Rebooking of travel tickets is highly encouraged to beat the given deadline (OULA to coordinate);
  4. All those who can not beat the deadline must communicate to their Regional Coordinators who will make a list of delegates and their destinations for proper grouping for the **application of Safe Passage or Travel Exemption** (Director Marcelo Bragado to coordinate);
  5. Hereunder are possible options that may be undertaken for those who cannot beat the deadline:
    - a. **Divert** to Clark, Pampanga instead of proceeding to Metro Manila. Flights in Clark are not restricted (RO III to coordinate);
    - b. **Request government buses** from LGUs of NCR, Regions III and IV-A to ferry groups of delegates to their destinations (ROs of NCR, III and IV-A to coordinate);
    - c. Recipient regional and division offices to **pick-up their passenger vans at the central office and use them to transport** some of the remaining delegation (CO Administrative Service, AMD, and CSSO to coordinate); and
    - d. **Request air, sea, and land assets** from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to ferry remaining delegates to major airports in Visayas and Mindanao (Undersecretary Revsee Escobedo to coordinate).

DepEd Task Force COVID-19 Vice Chairperson Assistant Secretary Salvador Malana III will supervise and coordinate the implementation of these measures. He will be assisted by Cagayan Valley Regional Director Estela Carino and Bureau of Curriculum Development Jocelyn Andaya in the North, and Administrative Director Roberto Agustin and Director Marcelo Bragado at the Central Office.

We will closely coordinate our steps with other concerned agencies and exhaust all means for our students, teachers, and personnel to be able to return home before travel restrictions in NCR are imposed, and after for the remaining delegates.

We request everyone for their patience and understanding as we ensure everyone's safety in this endeavor.

  
**ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA**  
Undersecretary  
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19

