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Republika ng Pilipinas

## Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

**OUA MEMO 00-1221-0052**

**MEMORANDUM**

07 December 2021

For: **Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries  
Bureau and Service Directors  
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister  
Child Protection Unit  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Designated Tobacco Control Coordinators  
Designated Brief Tobacco Intervention Providers  
Designated NDEP/BKD Coordinators  
School Heads  
Child Protection Committees**

Subject: **PARTICIPATION IN/STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE  
2ND SMOKE-FREE LGU FORUM**

The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), together with the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Education (DepEd), and HealthJustice Philippines, will hold the **2nd Smoke-Free LGU Forum: Sustaining Smoke-Free Communities in the New Normal** on **13 December 2021**, Monday, at **2:00-5:00 p.m.**, via **Zoom** teleconference. This event will also be available for live streaming through the organizers' official Facebook pages.

During the forum, DepEd is expected to discuss that schools are among the critical environments that must be protected in the new normal. As face-to-face classes gradually resume, learners will spend most of their time in schools. Maintaining a smoke-free environment will help reduce to a minimum the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and other airborne diseases, and help reduce smoking prevalence as well as health and socio-economic burdens that comes with it.

In this regard, DepEd offices and personnel are invited to participate in/actively support the said forum:

1. Designated tobacco control coordinators (per DepEd Memorandum No. 147, s. 2018) across all governance levels are invited to join the forum via Zoom teleconference, and utilize insights from the forum in planning tobacco control activities in their respective areas of jurisdiction.



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

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

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They are also enjoined to coordinate with the units and personnel concerned in their respective offices for necessary support for the said forum, including information dissemination, mobilization of participants who will join via Facebook livestream (e.g., representatives of concerned RO/SDO units, school heads), and sharing of activity posters and livestream via the Facebook pages of their offices.

2. Representatives from the **Child Protection Unit** under the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations (OUFO) are also invited to join the forum via Zoom teleconference, and to help ensure participation on Facebook livestream of Child Protection Committees, the identified focal unit for tobacco control at the school level, per DepEd Order No. 48, s. 2016.
3. All other units at the Central Office that have a stake on tobacco control are invited to also participate in the forum via Facebook livestream.
4. NDEP and BKD Coordinators are also invited to support and participate in the activity, to ensure harmonization of efforts for holistic substance use prevention.
5. Managers and administrators of the Facebook pages of DepEd offices and schools are invited to share the posters and the actual livestream of the activity.
6. All other teaching and non-teaching personnel are invited to participate in the forum via Facebook livestream.

The following are the instructions to join the specified platforms for DepEd participants:

DepEd Participants	Platform/Instructions for Registration
<p>Designated National, Regional, and Division Tobacco Control Coordinators</p> <p>Representatives of the Child Protection Committee</p> <p>Representatives from Central Office units</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Register for a slot at the Zoom platform through <a href="https://bit.ly/2ndsmokefreelguzoomreg">https://bit.ly/2ndsmokefreelguzoomreg</a> .               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. For the Organization Field, indicate Department of Education-&lt;CO/RO/SDO&gt;. If from CO, indicate name of office/unit.</li> <li>b. For the Job Title field, indicate "(RO/SDO Designated Tobacco Control)" after position title, if designated tobacco control coordinator.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. After registering, identified registrants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. (Note: Only 200 registrants from DepEd will be accommodated on a "first come, first served" basis.)</li> <li>3. Join the forum via Zoom teleconference as scheduled.</li> </ol>
<p>All others (e.g., representatives of offices, designated Brief Tobacco Intervention Providers)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Register for attendance at <a href="https://bit.ly/2ndsmokefreelgufbreg">https://bit.ly/2ndsmokefreelgufbreg</a> .</li> <li>2. Join the forum via livestreaming at the Facebook Page of HealthJustice Philippines or DepEd Philippines.</li> </ol>

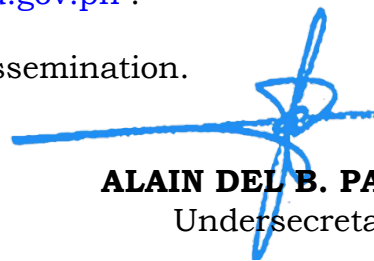



Please refer to the attached forum poster (**Annex A**) and working program (**Annex B**).

Concerns related to the activity including registration may be communicated directly to the **forum secretariat** via 0917 881 1112 or email at [jdelsreyes.healthjustice@gmail.com](mailto:jdelsreyes.healthjustice@gmail.com) .

For other questions and concerns, please contact Mr. Gian Erik M. Adao, Education Program Specialist of the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), through (02) 8632-9935/ 0917 327 4426 or email at [blss.shd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:blss.shd@deped.gov.ph) / [gian.adao@deped.gov.ph](mailto:gian.adao@deped.gov.ph) .

For proper guidance and for wide dissemination.

  
  
**ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA**  
Undersecretary



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**2ND SMOKE-FREE  
LGU FORUM**



**"SUSTAINING SMOKE-FREE  
COMMUNITIES IN THE  
NEW NORMAL"**



December 13, 2021 | 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm





# "SUSTAINING SMOKE-FREE COMMUNITIES IN THE NEW NORMAL"



December 13, 2021 | 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Seda Vertis North, Quezon City

PROGRAMME	
Welcome Remarks	<b>Hon. Eduardo M. Año</b> Secretary Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
Messages	
Smoke-free Environment in the New Normal	<b>Hon Francisco T. Duque III</b> Secretary Department of Health (DOH)
Smoke-free Schools to Protect our Youth	<b>Hon. Leonor Briones</b> Secretary Department of Education (DEPED)
Smoke-free Policy Implementation of Local Government Units- Opportunities and Challenges	<b>Hon. Jonathan E. Malaya</b> Undersecretary Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
Smoke-free Program Budget for Local Government Units	<b>HealthJustice Philippines</b>
Reactions	Mayors from Metro-Manila, Northern Luzon, Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

*\*Participants can also join via Zoom or watch via Livestream at the Facebook pages of the DILG and DOH*

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Objective:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Smoke-Free Local Government Units Forum aims to gather local government units and conduct a dialogue on how they can sustain the implementation of smoke-free environment programs in the new normal. The forum will discuss how smoke-free programs can complement the current health protocols to minimize, if not eliminate, the transmission of Covid-19 at the community level. Finally, a study will be presented to suggest on how the smoke-free environment programs can be funded to ensure a sustained implementation.

### **Technical Presentation:**

- The **Department of Health** will discuss how a smoke-free environment can prevent smoking-related illnesses as well as diseases caused by exposure to second-hand and third-hand smoke. Furthermore, the DOH will explain why a smoke-free environment is integral in the overall effort to address the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The **Department of Education** will discuss that one of the critical environments that must be protected in the new normal are the schools and learning institutions. Students will spend most of their time in schools and it is important to reduce to a minimum the risk of transmission of the Covid-19 virus and other airborne diseases. Maintaining a smoke-free environment will also help the overall efforts of the government to reduce the prevalence of smokers in the Philippines as well as health and socio-economic burdens that comes with it.
- The **Department of the Interior and Local Government** will discuss the role that local government plays in promoting a smoke-free environment to address the Covid-19 pandemic. It will include a discussion on the best practices adopted by different LGUs in promoting a smoke-free environment as well as the challenges they face in sustaining such programs due to limited budget and competing priorities.
- **HealthJustice Philippines** will present a study that was conducted in partnership with the University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance showing that allocating at least 1% of the local investment plan for health, local government units can kick-start or even sustain their smoke-free environment programs. This will involve a presentation of a menu of programs and strategies where the proposed 1% of their Local Investment Plan for Health can be allotted.