

Advisory No. **039**, s. 2023

August 9, 2023

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
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2023 ASEAN MONTH CELEBRATION

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on August 8, 1967, through the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration). The Foreign Ministers of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand signed the original Declaration. Later, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and Vietnam joined the Association, forming the current ASEAN Member States.

By virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 282 dated July 31, 2017 (Amending Proclamation No. 1008 dated May 21, 1997), declaring the month of August of every year as the ASEAN Month and Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 013 dated July 8, 2019, enjoining all government agency heads to include the singing of the ASEAN Anthem and sharing of information on ASEAN in all flag raising ceremonies within August of every year beginning 2019, the Department of Education, through the External Partnerships Service (EPS)-International Cooperation Office (ICO) is organizing an ASEAN Month Celebration for 2023.

In a bid to incorporate the Filipino core value of *Bayanihan* (coming together for a common goal), to support the *Makabayan* core value of DepEd and the *Makabansa* component of the *MATATAG* Agenda, the theme, *Bayanihan* like ASEAN: Leveraging Cooperation in Education to Strengthen ASEAN Identity, will be adopted for this year's celebration. Furthermore, the theme also echoes the goals of two commitments undertaken by the EPS which are the SEAMEO Council Presidency of the Philippines (for the years 2023–2025) and the *Brigada Eskwela*. The incorporation of a Filipino word in the theme is also in line with the celebration of the *Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa* which similarly falls on the month of August.

The Department, through the ICO, will organize a series of activities which include the following:

1. Flag-Raising Ceremony on July 31, 2023, to officially kick-off the ASEAN Month 2023 celebrations a day before August (to give way to the *Brigada Eskwela* Kick-Off on August 7, 2023);
2. Program on August 9, 2023, to commemorate the founding anniversary of ASEAN;
3. Forum on ASEAN Centrality and Empowering the ASEAN Youth on August 10, 2023; and
4. Video Campaign to raise awareness about ASEAN in the education sector.

In addition, the ICO annually provides all eligible regional offices (ROs) with support funds for the celebration of ASEAN Month and/or in conducting activities geared towards raising awareness on ASEAN. Eligible ROs are enjoined to utilize the aforementioned funds according to their purpose and submit utilization reports within the first quarter of 2024.

For more information, please contact:

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