

Republika ng Pilipinas
(Republic of the Philippines)
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)
Manila

July 2, 1982

MEC MEMORANDUM
No. 166, s. 1982

SPECIAL OLYMPICS FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Chiefs of Services and Heads of Units
Schools Superintendents
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Special Olympics is a program of physical training, recreational activities, sports competitions and olympic-type games for mentally retarded children and adults, aged eight years and above. It was created and developed by Special Olympics Inc. under the auspices of the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation in Washington D.C. Its main purpose is to assist in the physical, intellectual, social and psychological development of the retarded.
2. The duly recognized national organization in the country with affiliations to Special Olympics International, is the Philippine Special Olympics Foundation (PSOF). Lately the PSOF initiated Project Partnership to bring about a partnership among the government sector, private agencies, civic, fraternal and sports groups, with PSOF acting as catalyzer in the program delivery, toward the widening organization of Special Olympics programs to benefit an increasing number of retarded populace.
3. The National Affairs and Membership Committee of Special Olympics Project Partnership is presently organizing special olympics regional councils throughout the country and shall organize subsequently the provincial, city, and Municipal Councils. Pursuant to this, there shall be organized in every region/division a MEC Special Olympics Development Committee which shall be represented in the Special Olympics Council/s. It shall be headed by the regional director/schools superintendent, assisted by the supervisor of physical education, supervisor of research, evaluation and guidance, area supervisor of private schools, health supervisor and supervisor in charge of special education. It shall supervise, implement and monitor related programs and activities which shall include but not limited to the following:

Census of the number of children and youth strongly suspected to be retarded and provision for screening and diagnosis.

- b. Organization of Special Olympics Training Clubs in elementary and secondary schools where there are at least twenty (20) members and incorporation of Special Olympics training within the regular P.E. program;
 - c. When possible, extension of the Special Olympics program to out-of-school retarded youth, as part of the MEC Non-Formal Education scheme
 - d. Involvement of parents and families in Special Olympics Training Clubs; promotion of the "big-brother" or "big-sister" concept through tie-ups with regular youth groups such as Scout Troops, Y. Youth, others; linkage of Special Olympics Training Clubs with PTA's or civic clubs for added support
 - e. Cooperative efforts with PSOF and related Special Olympics Councils in the organization and conduct of seminars and workshops to train evaluators, as well as trainers and coaches who in turn will train the retarded; grant of service credits/part release from regular duties of teachers carrying Special Olympics assignments, and sponsoring of teachers to seminars/workshops/related university courses
 - f. Scheduling of progressive Special Olympics meets and
 - g. Regular assessment of program progress and plans for each subsequent year.
4. Colleges and universities shall likewise extend support and assistance to Special Olympics by way of
- a. incorporating concepts of mental retardation in college and graduate curriculum of education, psychology, guidance, social work, medicine, and other allied medical professions; Special Olympics methods and fieldwork experience to those majoring in Physical Education and Special Education;
 - b. mobilizing related departments in the identification, diagnosis, medical and psychological support of the retarded; cooperation with PSOF and related Special Olympics Councils in the organization and conduct of training for evaluators, trainers and coaches, as well as the conduct of meets and games; and
 - c. accrediting students' participation in Special Olympics training or volunteer service as part of Youth Civic Action Program (YCAP).

5. Further information regarding the Special Olympics may be directed to: The Philippine Special Olympics Foundation, Suite 608-609, Don Santiago Bldg., 1344 Taft Avenue, Manila, Telephone No. 50-10-61.

6. Immediate dissemination of the contents of this Memorandum to all concerned is requested.

(SGD.) HERMENEGILDO C. RUMLAO
Acting Minister

Reference:

None

Allotment 1-2--(D.O. 1-76)

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

· ATHLETICS
· OFFICIALS
· PROJECT
· SCHOOLS

· SOCIETY or ASSOCIATIONS
· SPECIAL EDUCATION