

Republika ng Pilipinas
(Republic of the Philippines)
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)
Manila

August 6, 1987

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 156, s. 1987

1987 UNITED NATIONS WEEK CELEBRATION

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities
Vocational School Superintendents/Administrators

1. The United Nations Association of the Philippines in cooperation with the United Nations Information Center for the Philippines, the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Education, Culture and Sports will coordinate the 1987 United Nations Week celebration.

2. Accordingly, the United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed 1987 as "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless" (IYSH), as announced in DECS Memorandum No. 62, s. 1987.

3. In this connection, the United Nations Week marks the peak of the observance of the IYSH. The following daily themes and suggested activities may be adopted or enriched by school authorities as appropriate.

Monday, October 19 -

Theme: "Shelter for the Homeless"

Suggested Activities:

- UN Flag raising ceremonies and opening program.
- Exhibits on the theme - "Shelter for the Homeless" and "The Homeless in Our Midst."
- In schools, class discussion on the importance of housing and plight of the homeless "squatters" of the cities.
- Invite resource persons from the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) to explain the relationship between shelter and population control.

Tuesday, October 20 -

Theme: "Taking Care of the Street People"

Suggested Activities:

- Survey or interview old and young people living on the streets pertaining to their age, sex,

province, number of members in the family, means of livelihood, reasons for leaving the province, etc.

- List down possible solutions on how to decrease or eradicate the number of young and old people living on the streets.
- Essay, theme, or poetry writing contest on:
"How It Feels to Be Homeless"
"The Joys of Having a Home."

Wednesday, October 21 -

Theme: "Sheltering the Refugees"

Suggested Activities:

- Discuss the functions of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.
- Identify or visit the Refugee Centers in the Philippines (or locate them on the map) and discuss their importance.
- Invite resource persons to talk about the "Life of Refugees All Over the World."

Thursday, October 22 -

Theme: "Designers and Builders of Shelters"

Suggested Activities:

- Invite architects, engineers and contractors to talk about building shelter for low-income groups.
- Discuss how to promote the use of indigenous materials, products and technology thus substituting imports which are expensive.
- Draw, paint, or design low-cost housing on "My Ideal Home."

Friday, October 23 -

Theme: "Healthy Communities"

(Note: Involve the Local Government and Department of Social Services)

Suggested Activities:

- Class discussion on how safe shelter can influence the good health of the community, national and global development and eventually attain world peace.
- Explain the significance of the "1987 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless" in relation to the mental and physical health of the homeless as a requisite for human survival and as fundamental human need.

- Research, synthesize and report on the availability of clean water and sanitation facilities, like toilets, drainage and garbage disposal in the squatter areas and report the findings to health authorities in the barangay or health center.
- Poster-making contest related to the theme.
- Call the attention of all barangays by writing to the Local Government about shared responsibilities on health and sanitation.

Saturday, October 24 - UNITED NATIONS DAY

Note: This may be celebrated in schools on October 23.

Suggested Activities:

- Hold convocation programs on how the UN is promoting peace the world over.
- School-community parade of the United Nations represented by children, students, teachers and parents.
- Pageant on the aspects of the history of the UN.
- US 7 on TV, Channel 4 - 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Sunday, October 25 -

Theme: "Shelter for the Spirit"

Suggested Activities:

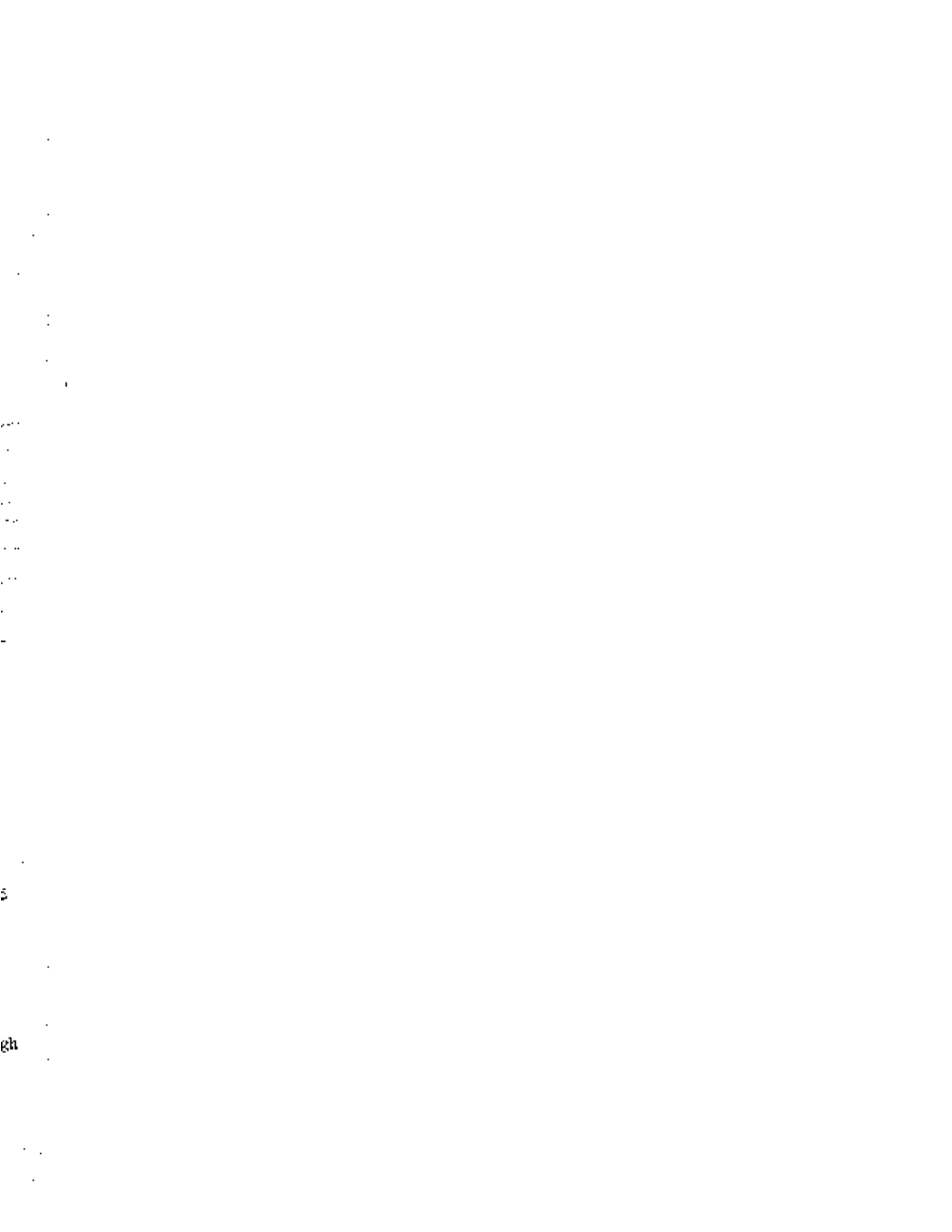
- Participation in religious services.
- Invite some homeless people to some special religious services.
- Organize musical programs or concert dedicated to the homeless.

4. To make the day-to-day activities more meaningful, colorful and successful, cooperation with government and non-government agencies in the community is strongly recommended.

5. Reports on relevant features undertaken during the celebration including photographs should reach the Office of the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, Intramuros, Manila, Attention: The Executive Secretary, United Nations Association of the Philippines, on or before December 31, 1987 to be endorsed to the United Nations in New York through the DFA.

6. All school authorities are requested to extend full cooperation and support to this year's celebration to insure its total success.

(SGE.) LORROES R. QUIRMBING
Secretary



References:

MECS Memorandum: No. 64, s. 1936

MECS Memorandum: (No. 27, s. 1937)

Attachments: 1-2-3-4--(M.C. 1-27)

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

- \ CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
- \ COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT
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