



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS  
Merullo Avenue, Pasig City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

June 11, 1998

DECS MEMORANDUM

No. 248, s. 1998

REVITALIZING THE CALAMITY AND DISASTER CONTROL GROUPS

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents

1. In anticipation of the La Nifia phenomenon which is characterized by heavy rainfall, and other related disasters, the Department is reactivating/revitalizing the Calamity and Disaster Groups created under DECS Order No. 61, s. 1990, and Department Memorandum No. 286, s. 1976.

2. The groups are tasked to help promote disaster preparedness at all times among the personnel especially the students.

3. In the discharge of their functions, before, during and after disasters/calamities, the groups will be guided by Provisions Nos. 2 and 3 of MECS Memorandum No. 110, s. 1986, with focus on the following tasks:

- a. make available school buildings nearest the affected areas as evacuation centers;
- b. provide volunteers/manpower to assist in the rescue, relief and rehabilitation activities;
- c. disseminate information on the nature of disasters, their causes and prevention; and
- d. conduct training programs on disaster preparedness in the central, regional, provincial, city and district school personnel in coordination with the lead agencies like OCD, PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, DSWD, PNR, PIA and the Disaster Coordinating Council in the area.

4. The training program may include the following topics:

- a) Components of disaster preparedness program;
- b) Prediction and control of disaster;
- c) Overview of program of assistance to victims of disaster;
- d) Vital agencies involved, their roles and functions; and
- e) Relief and rehabilitation services.

5. Funding support shall be provided from: a) calamity/disaster funds, if any; b) portion of DECS general fund (Sec. 31 GAA 1998); c) voluntary donations and contributions from the public and private sector; and Local Government Units (LGUs' funds).

6. Coordination in the activities of the Calamity and Disaster Control Groups may be undertaken in the following manner:

- a. DECS through the Office of Planning Service, shall coordinate with the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC);
- b. Regional Directors shall coordinate with their counterpart in other agencies; and
- c. Superintendents shall coordinate with the governor/mayors in their respective areas.

7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.

  
ERLINDA C. PEFIANCO  
Secretary

**References:**

- DECS Order: (No. 61, s. 1990)  
MECS Memorandum: (No. 110, s. 1986)

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

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

BUREAUS & OFFICES  
CALAMITY  
SAFETY EDUCATION