



*Tanggapan ng Kalihim*  
*Office of the Secretary*

July 31, 2000

**DECS MEMORANDUM**  
No. 344, s. 2000

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS  
(DECS) AND THE PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES  
AND COLLEGES (PASUC) ON THE NONFORMAL EDUCATION  
ACCREDITATION AND EQUIVALENCY (NFE A&E)  
SECONDARY LEVEL CERTIFICATE HOLDERS**

To: **Undersecretaries**  
**Assistant Secretaries**  
**Bureau Directors**  
**Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units**  
**Regional Directors**  
**Schools Division/City Superintendents**  
**Private Elementary and Secondary Schools Principals**

1. The Philippine Nonformal Education Project (PNFEP) envisions to contribute to the country's poverty alleviation program by raising the basic and functional literacy skills of the poor to enhance their capabilities to engage in self-help and community activities.
2. The development of Nonformal Education Accreditation and Equivalency (NFE A&E) System as an alternative means of certification of learning to those Filipinos aged fifteen (15) years and above who are unable to avail of the formal school system or who have dropped out of formal elementary or secondary school is a core component of the PNFEP Project.
3. The collaboration of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) with the different agencies is necessary to be able to attain its ultimate goal of eradicating illiteracy and provide educational access opportunities for poor and underserved Filipino Out-of-School Youth and Adults. The DECS is actively seeking formal agreements with other agencies, institutions and organizations offering post-secondary education system to articulate with the education programs of those institutions. Once articulation agreements are in place, graduates of the NFE A&E System will thereby gain access to a range of continuing education and vocational training programs once they exit the NFE A&E System. To this end, the DECS has established linkage with the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) and signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on May 2000 with the following commitments:
  - a. That DECS and PASUC will work to ensure articulation of their nonformal education learning systems across all levels of program implementation;
  - b. That PASUC and its member institutions recognize the NFE A&E Secondary Level Certificate as a qualification comparable to that of the Diploma of the formal school system;

- c. That NFE A&E Secondary Level Certificate holders will be accepted into the post-secondary education programs of PASUC member institutions subject to the usual screening procedures of such institutions for regular enrollees;
  - d. That DECS and PASUC will collaborate to advocate for improved access to post-secondary education and training programs offered by private providers and State Universities/Colleges for NFE A&E Secondary Level Certificate holders;
  - e. That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to support efforts to institutionalize the Recognition of Prior Learning as a mechanism to improve educational access opportunities for poor and underserved Filipinos Out-of-School-Youth (OSY) and Adults;
  - f. That DECS and PASUC will coordinate closely with other education providers to support the development of national equivalency competency standards to provide multiple pathways of learning for Filipinos who are unable to avail of the educational opportunities of the formal school system;
  - g. That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to support efforts to strengthen skills and competency development of Out-of-School-Youth (OSY) and Adults in preparation for entrance to post-secondary education programs;
  - h. That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to strengthen the development, implementation and expansion of educational equivalency programs as part of the formation of a national alternative learning system incorporating nonformal and post basic education; and
  - i. That DECS and PASUC will coordinate to facilitate the engagement of PASUC member institutions as providers of learning support services of Out-of-School-Youth (OSY) and Adults under the Learning Support Delivery System (LSDS) of the NFE A&E.
4. With this agreement, thousands of out-of-school youth and adults will benefit from the NFE A&E program and PASUC education and training programs to improve their basic skills in critical thinking, problem solving and decision making, thus, open other opportunities and life choices to improve the quality of their life and that of their families.
  5. Enclosed is a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DECS and PASUC.
  6. Immediate and wide dissemination of the contents of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.

  
ANDREW GONZALEZ, FSC  
Secretary

Encl:

As stated

References: DECS Memorandum: No. 204, s. 1998 and  
DECS Order: No. 22, s. 1999

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

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

~~/~~ SOCIETY or ASSOCIATIONS  
~~/~~ NONFORMAL EDUCATION  
~~/~~ PROJECTS

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

### KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This AGREEMENT made and entered into by and between:

The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) with office address at DECS Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City, herein represented by DECS Secretary, ANDREW B. GONZALEZ, FSC, hereinafter referred to as the First Party.

- and -

The PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES (PASUC) with principal address at Eulogio A. Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST), Nagtahan Sta. Mesa, Manila, herein represented by its President, Dr. Frederick So. Pada, hereinafter referred to as the Second Party.

- WITNESSETH -

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government, through the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have entered into Loan Agreement No. 1254-PHI (SF), otherwise known as the Philippines Nonformal Education (PNFE) Project;

WHEREAS, the PNFE Project envisions to contribute to the country's poverty alleviation program by raising the basic and functional literacy skills of the poor to enhance their capabilities to engage in self-help and community activities;

WHEREAS, a core component of the PNFE Project is the Development of a Nonformal Education Accreditation and Equivalency (NFE A&E) System as an alternative means of certification of learning to those Filipinos aged 15 years and above, who are unable to avail of the formal school system, or who have dropped out of formal elementary or secondary school;

WHEREAS, the NFE A&E System is a pioneering effort to offer a uniquely nonformal alternative learning system to formal schooling, with a truly nonformal curriculum and utilizes a range of innovative nonformal learning strategies designed to break down traditional learning barriers of time, accessibility and resources;

WHEREAS, the NFE A&E System incorporates two levels of equivalency testing and certification comparable to the elementary and secondary levels of the formal school system;

*Frederick So. Pada*

*Andrew B. Gonzalez*

*Alm*

*Frederick So. Pada*

WHEREAS, the DECS and PASUC are committed in improving equity and access to education services in order to improve the marketable skills and life opportunities of Out-of-School Youth and Adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual stipulations and covenants herein set forth, DECS and PASUC hereby agree on the following:

- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will work to ensure articulation of their nonformal education learning systems across all levels of program implementation;
- ◆ That PASUC and its member institutions recognize the NFE A&E Secondary Level Certificate as a qualification comparable to that of the Diploma of the formal School system;
- ◆ That NFE A&E Secondary Level Certificate holders will be accepted into the post-secondary education programs of PASUC member institutions subject to the usual screening procedures of such institution for regular enrollees;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will collaborate to advocate for improved access to post-secondary education and training programs offered by private providers and State Universities/Colleges for NFE A&E Secondary level Certificate holders;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to support efforts to institutionalize the Recognition of Prior Learning as a mechanism to improve educational access opportunities for poor and underserved Filipinos Out of School Youth (OSY) and Adults;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will coordinate closely with other education providers to support the development of national equivalency competency standards to provide multiple pathways of learning for Filipinos who are unable to avail of the educational opportunities of the formal education system;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to support efforts to strengthen skills and competency development of Out of School Youth (OSY) and adults in preparation for entrance to post-secondary education programs;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will work jointly to strengthen the development, implementation and expansion of educational equivalency programs as part of the formation of a national alternative learning system incorporating nonformal and post-basic education;
- ◆ That DECS and PASUC will coordinate to facilitate the engagement of PASUC member institutions as providers of learning support services for Out of School Youth (OSY) and Adults under the Learning Support Delivery System (LSDS) of the NFE A&E.

*Richard P. ...*

*Justine ...*

*Ally ...*

*...*

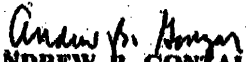
This AGREEMENT shall take effect upon signing of this Agreement by the FIRST PARTY and the SECOND PARTY.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have signed this AGREEMENT on the date and place appearing on the acknowledgement hereof.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,  
CULTURE AND SPORTS (DECS)

PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE UNIVERSITIES &  
COLLEGES (PASUC)


By:

  
ANDREW B. GONZALEZ, FSC  
Secretary

  
DR. FREDERICK SO. PADA  
President

Signed in the Presence of:

  
ROSARIO J. DE GUZMAN  
Director IV

  
DELIA G. SAULER  
PASUC Secretary-Treasurer

Date signed: May 9, 2000

**A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T**

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)**  
**PROVINCE OF MANILA ) S.S.**

BEFORE ME, this 22 day of May 2000, personally appeared the following:

Name	Res. Cert. No.	Date & Place of Issue
1. SEC. ANDREW B. GONZALEZ, FSC.	<u>01990223</u>	<u>Jan. 5, 2000-Pasig City</u>
2. DR. FREDERICK SO. PADA	<u>08019021</u>	<u>Jan. 17, 2000-Antipolo, Rizal</u>

Known to me to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instruments and acknowledged to me that the same is their free and voluntary act and deed and that of the principals represented by them.

WITNESS MY HAND and SEAL, on the date and place written above.

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Book No. 43  
Series of 2000

*Felipe N. Millan, Jr.*  
**FELIPE N. MILLAN, JR.**  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
UNTIL DEC. 31, 2001  
RJR. NO. 08032-ET  
MANILA, JEN. 5, 2000

**NOTARY PUBLIC**

FBI MOAFASUC  
C/DRIVE/MFA

*Frederick So. Pada*

*Felipe N. Millan, Jr.*

*Andrew B. Gonzalez*

*Frederick So. Pada*