



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

FEB 01 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

No. 006, s. 2023

**TO : ALL MEMBERS OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCILS AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND MUNICIPAL LEVELS, AND BARANGAY DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES; HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES, STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS**

**SUBJECT : RESUMPTION OF FACE-TO-FACE CONDUCT OF NATIONWIDE SIMULTANEOUS EARTHQUAKE DRILL**

The protracted COVID-19 pandemic has prevented the effective conduct of preparedness and response exercises and drills. While innovative approaches through webinars and limited physical interactions have been implemented by the NDRRMC through the OCD for the past two years in order to prevent the spread of the COVID virus, the said methods in conducting the Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drills were obviously not that effective in testing and validating contingency plans as well as in assessing and enhancing preparedness for response at all levels and sectors.

The projected devastation and impacts of major earthquakes both to humans and properties dictate the continuance of regular promotion and conduct of simulation exercises with the aim of minimizing disaster risks. This is in line with our compliance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) Priority for Action 4 and the National DRRM Plan 2020-2030 Outcome 9, specifically Activity 9.2.3.

With a relatively decreasing COVID-19 cases nationwide from February 2022 to date per DOH's online COVID-19 Tracker, and pursuant to the issuance of the updated Alert Level Systems for COVID-19 by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) on June 4, 2022, the conduct of traditional or in-person Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill is hereby allowed. Provided that minimum health protocols such as, but not limited to, handwashing and social distancing are strictly implemented as much as practicable, to ensure effective, efficient, and safe implementation of NSED. Provided further, implementing agencies and offices shall designate Safety and Health Officers who will ensure, monitor, and



evaluate the proper implementation and strict observance of minimum public health standards throughout the exercise.

However, this is without prejudice to the authority of the IATF-EID to prohibit mass gatherings in any or all areas of the country should the circumstances call for it. In this case, the conduct of NSED shall be postponed or canceled or the methodology should be modified accordingly.

Further, the active participation of DRRMCs at all levels, including the Barangay DRRMCs, as well as the National Government Agencies and other Government entities is strongly encouraged.

In view thereof, the schedule for the CY 2023 Quarterly Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill is hereby disseminated:

Quarter	Date/Time	Ceremonial Site
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	09 Mar 2023, 2:00 PM	Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	08 Jun 2023, 9:00 AM	Mandaluyong City
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	07 Sep 2023, 2:00 PM	Bohol Province
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter (Scenario will be related to the effect of Tsunami in observance with the World Tsunami Day)	09 Nov 2023, 9:00 AM	Aurora Province

For information and guidance.

For the Chairperson, NDRRMC:



**USEC ARIEL F NEPOMUCENO**  
Executive Director, NDRRMC and  
Administrator, OCD

