



MEMORANDUM
No. 23, s. 2024

20-09-2024

**TO : ALL CHAIRPERSONS OF RDRRMCS / LDRRMCS /
OCD REGIONAL OFFICES**

**SUBJECT : REITERATION ON THE PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS
FOR THE SOUTHWEST MONSOON AND TROPICAL
DEPRESSION "IGME"**

Based on the Weather Update conducted on 20 September 2024, as of 2:00 PM, the Low Pressure Area (LPA) East of Batanes developed into Tropical Depression "IGME" and was estimated based on all available data at 530 km East Northeast of Itbayat, Batanes (22.0°N, 126.8°E) with maximum sustained winds of 55 km/h near the center and gustiness of up to 70 km/h. It is moving Northwestward at 15km/h and may sustain or continuously enhance the Southwest Monsoon (Habagat).

In this connection, all concerned Chairpersons of RDRRMCS and LDRRMCS, and the OCD Regional Directors are hereby directed to continuously undertake the following preparedness actions in connection with the current weather system affecting the country:

1. Heighten monitoring of warnings and advisories from DOST-PAGASA, DENR-MGB, and other surveillance agencies. Cross-validate these updates with real-time data from Doppler radar, satellite imagery, and other science-based monitoring tools to ensure accurate situational awareness;
2. Promptly conduct Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) and Weather Update sessions as deemed necessary, independent of a National-level PDRA or weather update. Furthermore, ensure close coordination with the DILG to facilitate the LDRRMCS in carrying out their respective local PDRA/Weather Update sessions and undertaking preparedness measures in alignment with Operation LISTO;
3. Strengthen efforts to disseminate critical weather information to all stakeholders at the regional level, particularly vulnerable communities. Ensure warnings reach local communities through all available platforms, using clear, accessible language to emphasize urgency. Integrate risk communication by coordinating with local leaders, media, and trusted community figures to amplify the message and ensure that even hard-to-reach or vulnerable groups understand the risks and necessary actions.
4. Consistently emphasize DOST-PAGASA as the primary source of official weather updates, preventing misinformation. If necessary, work with the regional counterparts and LGUs to heighten community-wide awareness campaigns, integrating risk communication strategies to inform the public about potential hazards and preparedness measures. Tailor communication to ensure vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, receive targeted/accessible information through trusted and familiar channels.

5. Work closely with local authorities to ensure timely distribution of warnings and updates, focusing on high-risk areas. Likewise, advise the local government units to update and test evacuation plans as necessary, ensuring that routes and shelters are identified and accessible. Further, provide clear instructions to the public on when and how to evacuate, including the importance of adhering to official warnings and advisories.
6. Ensure coordination through the virtual Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and submit regular RDRRMC Situational Report to the NDRRM Operations Center, as needed, highlighting the current situation, preparedness measures, summary of damage, and response needs.

Further, LDRRMCs are directed to continuously monitor weather disturbances and ensure the prompt dissemination of early warnings to the public through various platforms. These local efforts are meant to complement and strengthen initiatives at the national and regional levels. Emphasis should be placed on proactive measures, prioritizing evacuation over rescue operations. Additionally, all concerned are advised to implement precautionary actions within their respective areas of responsibility.

For guidance and compliance.

For the Executive Director, NDRRMC:



ASEC HERNANDO M CARAIG, JR
Civil Defense Deputy Administrator for Operations

