Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF VIGAN CITY

2601- 957

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 48 s, 2026

OBSERVANCE OF THE 30TH AUTISM CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors, SGOD and CID
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

1. Pursuant to Proclamation No. 771 of 1996 declaring the third week of January as Autism Consciousness Week and in compliance with paragraph 3 of DepEd Memorandum No. 22, s. 2021 titled "Observance of National Celebrations on Advocacy Program in Support to Inclusive Education", and Regional Memorandum No. 52, s. 2026, this Office in coordination with the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) encourages schools to observe the 30th Autism Consciousness Day on January 19-25, 2026.

2. This year's theme, "Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines" emphasizes a shared commitment to remove obstacles, ensuring that Filipinos with autism can reach their full potential and participate fully in society.

3. Schools may conduct different activities and initiatives aligned to the theme including but not limited to the following suggested school-based activities during the week:

a. Posting campaign and advocacy materials in support with the celebration in conformity with the design set by the NCDA, within the schools and premises;
b. Facilitating symposia involving parents, learners and community leaders to discuss this year's theme;
c. Creating advocacy campaign materials such as posters, slogans, etc., detailing tangible steps they will take for inclusion of learners with autism; and
d. Organizing a day camp for learners with autism to explore new skills and social play in a safe, structured, and joy-filled environment.

4. The link for the official streamer design may be accessed through the NCDA website at www.ncda.gov.ph.

5. Accomplishment Reports/Documentation relative to the observance of the schools in this activity shall be submitted through the link https://tinyurl.com/30thAUTCons-VC.

6. For information, guidance, and immediate dissemination.

VILMA D. EDA, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl.: RM No. 52, s. 2026 and Advisory from BLD dated January 12, 2026
References: As stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the Subject

CELEBRATION

CID/eca/DM_30thAutismConsciousnessDay
January 17, 2026

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE
DEPED VIGAN CITY
16 JAN 2026
RELEASED
BY:

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 1
RECEIVED
000811
BY:
DATE:
JAN 14 2026

2601-957 E87

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 52 s. 2026

30TH AUTISM CONSCIOUSNESS DAY

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. Pursuant to the Proclamation No. 771 of 1996 declaring the third week of January as Autism Consciousness Week and in compliance with Paragraph 3 of DepEd Memorandum No. 22, s. 2021 titled "Observance of National Celebrations on Advocacy Programs in Support to Inclusive Education, the Department of Education, in coordination with the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) encourages the Schools Division Offices (SDOs) and schools in celebrating the 30th Autism Consciousness Day on January 19-25, 2026 with this year's theme, "Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines."

2. Relative to this, the link for the official streamer design, which shall be used for advocacy materials, may be accessed through the NCDA website at www.ncda.gov.ph.

3. For further information, please contact the Bureau of Learning Delivery – Student Inclusion Division (BLD-SID) by email at bld.od@deped.gov.ph, copy furnished to bld.sid@deped.gov.ph or through telephone number 8673 – 4346.

4. For information and guidance.

TOLENTINO G. AQUINO
Director IV

Encl.: Advisory from the Bureau of Learning Delivery dated January 12, 2026
Reference: the same

To be included in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subject

CELEBRATION

CLMD/magd/RM_30thAutismConsciousnessDay
January 13, 2026

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
BUREAU OF LEARNING DELIVERY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO.1
JAN 12 2026
BY: TIME: 5:32

ADVISORY
January 8, 2026

Pursuant to the Proclamation No. 771 (1996) declaring the third week of January as Autism Consciousness Week and in compliance with Paragraph 3 of DepEd Memorandum (DM) No. 022 s. 2021 entitled "Observance of National Celebrations on Advocacy Programs in Support to Inclusive Education", the Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), encourages the regions, divisions, and schools in celebrating the **30th Autism Consciousness Week** on January 19 to 25, 2026.

This year's theme, *"Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines,"* emphasizes the necessity of collaboration among government agencies, schools, workplaces, and families in building inclusive and supportive environments. It underscores a shared commitment to dismantling obstacles, ensuring that Filipinos with autism can reach their full potential and participate fully in society.

The Department encourages all schools to participate in the celebration through the conduct of relevant programs, activities, and initiatives aligned to the theme including but not limited to the following suggested school-based activities during the week:

a. Posting of campaign and advocacy materials in support with the celebration, in conformity with the design set by NCDA, within the DepEd schools and premises;
b. Facilitating symposia involving parents, learners, and community leaders to discuss this year's theme;
c. Creating advocacy campaign materials such as posters, slogans, etc., detailing tangible steps they will take for inclusion of learners with autism; and
d. Organizing a day camp for learners with autism to explore new skills and social play in a safe, structured, and joy-filled environment.

The link for the official streamer design, which shall be used for advocacy materials, may be accessed through the NCDA website at www.ncda.gov.ph.

For any further queries or clarifications, kindly contact the Bureau of Learning Delivery-Student Inclusion Division (BLD-SID) by email at bld.od@deped.gov.ph, copy furnished to bld.sid@deped.gov.ph, or through telephone number 8673-4346.

For information and guidance.

GERSON MARVIN M. ABESAMIS CPA
Director IV
Bureau of Learning Delivery

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DepEd RO1 REC2517287

4/F Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Direct Line: (632) 8636-6540/8637-4347 email: bld.od@deped.gov.ph

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

21 APR 2021

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. 022 , s. 2021

OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS ON ADVOCACY PROGRAMS IN SUPPORT TO INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) announces the **Observance of National Celebrations on Advocacy Programs in Support to Inclusive Education.** This is pursuant to Republic Act No. 9155 otherwise known as *Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001* and in consonance with governing laws and issuances relative to year-round commemoration of events relative to advocacy programs in support to the implementation of Inclusive Education. The Department is committed to ensure observance of various events and activities listed below in accordance with the stated proclamations and/or legal bases.

Advocacy Celebrations and Legal Basis	Celebration	Date
Presidential Proclamation No. 711 *Declaring the Third Week of January as Autism Consciousness Week*	National Autism Consciousness Week	3rd week of January
Presidential Proclamation No. 1385 *Designating the Period from February 14 to 20, 1975 and Even/Year Thereafter, as Retarded Children's Week*	Intellectual Disability Awareness Week	2nd week of February
Presidential Proclamation No. 157 *Declaring the Month of February as National Down Syndrome Consciousness Month*	National Down Syndrome Awareness Month	February
Presidential Proclamation No. 187 *Declaring the Third Week of July Every Year as the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation*	National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week	3rd week of July
Republic Act No. 6759 *An Act Declaring August One of Each Year as White Cane Safety Day in the Philippines and for Other Purposes*	White Cane Safety Day	August 1
Presidential Proclamation No. 472 *Declaring the Third Week of October of Every Year as the National Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder AD/HD Awareness*	ADHD Awareness Week	3rd week of October

Advocacy Celebrations and Legal Basis	Celebration	Date
Presidential Proclamation No. 829 *Declaring the Period from November 10 to 16 of Every Year as Deaf Awareness Week*	Deaf Awareness Week	November 10-16
Presidential Proclamation No. 199 *Declaring the Fourth Week of November 1999 and Every Year Thereafter as National Week for the Gifted and Talented*	Gifted and Talented Week	Fouth Week of November
Presidential Proclamation No. 1157 *Declaring December 3, 2006 and Every Year Thereafter as International/ Day of Persons with Disabilities in the Philippines*	International Day on Disability	December 3

2. This Memorandum serves as a guide to all public and private schools nationwide in order to carry out and/or implement meaningful and related advocacy projects and activities, which shall be integrated in the school programs and events.

3. The regional, schools division, and district offices, as well as public and private schools are enjoined to actively participate in the observance of celebrations stipulated in this Memorandum. A separate Advisory on the themes and proposed activities shall be issued by DepEd through the Bureau of Learning Delivery-Student Inclusion Division.

4. For more information, please contact the **Bureau of Learning Delivery-Student Inclusion Division**, 4th Floor, Bonifacio Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at bld.od@deped.gov.ph or at telephone number (02) 8637-4347

5. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Reference:
None

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

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS
LEGISLATIONS
LEARNERS
PROGRAMS
SPECIAL EDUCATION

MCDJ/SMMA/APA/MPC, DM National Observance of National Celebration
0054 – February 18, 2021

30TH AUTISM CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK CELEBRATION
January 19-25, 2026

I. BACKGROUND

The nation is commemorating every third week of January of every year thereafter pursuant to Proclamation No. 711 (1996).

Declaring the Third Week of January as Autism Consciousness Week – Proclamation No. 711 | National Council on Disability Affairs

II. THEME

This year's theme, **"Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines"** *(From Awareness to Action: Advancing an Autism-OK Philippines)*, underscores the urgent need to move beyond awareness and translate understanding into meaningful, sustained action. It envisions a truly inclusive society where individuals on the autism spectrum are fully supported, valued, and empowered to participate with dignity in all aspects of community life.

Key objectives:

1. Shift from mere awareness to concrete, sustained actions for inclusion.
2. Build a truly inclusive society where individuals on the autism spectrum are supported, valued, empowered, and able to participate with dignity in community life.
3. Promote collective responsibility across sectors to remove barriers and create accessible, empathetic environments enabling autistic Filipinos to thrive and contribute.

Call to Action:

All sectors (government agencies, educational institutions, workplaces, communities, and families) are urged to collaborate in organizing and supporting relevant programs, activities, and initiatives aligned with the theme.

III. POSTER AND TARPAULIN

Here is the link for the tarpaulin streamer/poster design:

Nationwide ACW poster/tarpaulin

Alt txt : The background features soft, swirling patterns in shades of green, yellow, orange, and blue – colors often associated with autism awareness. The light, inclusive color palette evokes hope, growth, and neurodiversity.

IV. CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES (Draft)

January 19	January 20	January 21	January 22
Opening Ceremony + 1Bansa1Pangako *Time:* Flag ceremony ***Venue:*** Nationwide ***Lead:*** ASP	**Autism-Friendly Disaster Response: Train-the-Trainers Workshop** ***Time:*** 9am to 2pm ***Venue:*** TBA ***Lead:*** NCDA and ASP (by invitation)		
January 23	**January 24**	**January 25**	**Other events**
	Lights Up, Sounds Down ***Time:*** 8am to 12nn Venue: Cinemas in multiple cities in Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao Lead: ASP **Autism-OK Pilipinas: "Adulting Kapag Autistic"**		**ASP ARTismo sa Kongreso** ***Date and Time:*** Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm ***Venue:*** House of Representatives ***Lead:*** ASP

	Time: 10am ***Venue:*** ASP/NCDA ***Facebook*** ***Lead***: ASP		

Resource: NACW2026 Game Plan

V. MEMORANDUM CIRCULARS

This observance emphasizes moving beyond awareness toward meaningful inclusion, acceptance, and empowerment for Filipinos on the autism spectrum. Agencies and units are encouraged to issue directives for active participation.

a. Department of Labor and Employment

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Intramuros, Manila

MEMORANDUM

TO : **All Heads of Bureaus, Services, Regional Offices, and Attached Agencies**

SUBJECT : **2026 Autism Consciousness Week**

DATE : **05 January 2026**

The upcoming 19th Autism Consciousness Week will be observed on the third week of January 2026, as mandated by Proclamation No. 711 s. 1996. This year's theme is "***Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Pilipinas***" (From Awareness to Action: Advancing an Autism-OK Philippines), which stresses the need to shift from mere awareness to concrete, sustained actions that build a truly inclusive society where individuals with autism are supported, valued, and empowered to participate fully and with dignity.

As the Department supports this national observance, all offices are encouraged to actively participate by organizing or supporting relevant programs, activities, and initiatives aligned with the theme. For reference and consistency, the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) provides the official streamer design which can be downloaded from their website at [illegible] and Autism Week materials may [illegible]

Should you need further information, you may contact the NCDA through their IEC Division at telephone no. (02) 5370 4753 or email at [illegible]

For appropriate action, please.

ATTY. FELIPE N. EGARGO, JR.
Undersecretary

[illegible]

National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA)
Information, Education, and Communications Division (IECD)
[illegible]

b. Other agencies to follow

Republika ng Pilipinas
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
Pambansang Sanggunian Ukol sa Ugnayang Pangmaykapansanan

BAGONG PILIPINAS

December 10, 2025

SECRETARY JUAN EDGARDO M. ANGARA
Department of Education
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Attention: **Dr. Jerome T. Buenviaje**
Assistant Secretary Strategic Management
Education Futures Office

Dear Secretary Angara:

This has reference to the forthcoming celebration of the 30th Autism Consciousness Week celebration that will be commemorated every third week of January of every year thereafter pursuant to Proclamation No. 711 (1996). This year's theme, **"Mula Kamalayan Tungo sa Gawa: Pag-unlad ng Autism-OK Philippines"** *(From Awareness to Action: Advancing an Autism-OK Philippines)*, underscores the urgent need to move beyond awareness and translate understanding into meaningful, sustained action. It envisions a truly inclusive society where individuals on the autism spectrum are fully supported, valued, and empowered to participate with dignity in all aspects of community life.

The theme calls upon all sectors—government agencies, educational institutions, workplaces, communities, and families—to work collaboratively in creating accessible, empathetic, and enabling environments. It emphasizes collective responsibility in removing barriers and fostering conditions that allow autistic Filipinos to thrive and contribute meaningfully.

In line with this national observance, we respectfully request the issuance of a departmental directive enjoining all regional offices, attached agencies, and operating units to actively participate in the 30th Autism Consciousness Week through the conduct and support of relevant programs, activities, and initiatives aligned with this year's theme.

For uniformity in advocacy materials, the official streamer design may be downloaded from the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) website at www.ncda.gov.ph.

Should you have any questions or require further coordination, please feel free to contact Ms. Jem P. Aguilar, our officer-in-charge for this event, at Telephone No. 5310-4759.

We sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to your favorable action on this request.

Very truly yours,

GLENDA D. RELOVA
Executive Director III

NCDA Building, Isidora Street, Barangay Holy Spirit, Quezon City, 1127, Philippines
Telephone Numbers: Trunkline - (632) 8932-6422;
Email: council@ncda.gov.ph; website: http://www.ncda.gov.ph

Promoting Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities