MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 130

ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE SUSPENSION AND RESUMPTION OF CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES, AND ONSITE WORK IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND LEARNING CENTERS

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 10121 or the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010," establishes a comprehensive and decentralized system of disaster risk reduction and management, strengthens the capacities of local government units (LGUs) to address disaster risks and emergencies within their respective jurisdictions, and mandates the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to provide accurate and timely advice to national or local emergency response organizations and to the general public through diverse mass media;

WHEREAS, RA No. 10692 or the "Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) Modernization Act of 2015," RA No. 12180 or the "Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) Modernization Act," and Executive Order (EO) No. 192 (s. 1987), as amended, vest PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, and the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-EMB), with mandates relating to the use of scientific knowledge and information, the monitoring and mitigation of risks from natural hazards, and environmental management, to ensure the safety, well-being, and economic security of the people;

WHEREAS, RA No. 12199 or the "Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) System Act," RA No. 9155 or the "Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001," RA No. 7722 or the "Higher Education Act of 1994," and RA No. 7796 or the "Technical Education and Skills Development Act of 1994" vest the ECCD Council, the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) with mandates relating to the governance, administration, and delivery of education and training within their respective jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, EO No. 66 (s. 2012) prescribes the rules on the cancellation or suspension of classes and work in government offices due to typhoons, flooding, other weather disturbances, and calamities;

WHEREAS, there is a need to rationalize and harmonize the rules governing the suspension and resumption of classes and activities, and onsite work in educational institutions and learning centers due to natural or human-induced hazards, while

ensuring the uninterrupted delivery of quality education through risk-informed, science-based, locally responsive policies that support learning continuity; and

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution vests in the President the power of control over all Executive departments, bureaus, and offices, and the mandate to ensure the faithful execution of laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR., President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. Framework for the Suspension and Resumption of In-Person Classes and Activities, and Onsite Work. A framework for the suspension and resumption of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work in educational institutions and learning centers is hereby established. The framework shall be governed by three (3) core mechanisms:

a. **Automatic suspension and resumption** based on prescribed technical thresholds;

b. **Localized suspension and resumption** by Local Chief Executives (LCEs) based on local risk assessments and prevailing conditions; and

c. **Granular suspension and resumption** by educational institutions and learning centers based on documented site-specific assessments, subject to the applicable requirements set forth in this Order and in the guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

   Granular suspension may be declared only when there is no applicable suspension declared by the National Government or the concerned LCE. Where a localized suspension remains in effect, granular resumption may be declared with the concurrence of the concerned LCE, subject to the requirements prescribed under this Order and its implementing guidelines.

Section 2. Power to Suspend and Resume. The power to suspend includes the authority to postpone, cancel, or temporarily discontinue in-person classes and activities, and onsite work, in whole or in part, as may be necessary to protect the safety and welfare of learners and personnel. The power to resume includes the authority to reinstate in-person classes and activities, and onsite work, and to correspondingly lift the alternative work arrangements implemented during the period of suspension, upon determination, based on the applicable safety assessment, that conditions are safe for the return of learners and personnel.

Section 3. Learning Continuity Measures. The suspension of in-person classes shall not automatically suspend learning. Educational institutions and learning centers shall, whenever feasible and appropriate, implement learning continuity measures consistent with the policies of the ECCD Council, DepEd, CHED, TESDA, and other agencies operating or supervising specialized educational institutions and learning centers, to ensure that learning continues despite the suspension of in-person classes. The specific learning continuity measures, delivery modalities, institutional planning requirements, funding considerations, and the grounds or criteria for the implementation of alternative learning continuity measures shall be prescribed in the guidelines issued pursuant to this Order.

Unless otherwise expressly provided in the suspension order, alternative work arrangements shall be implemented, whenever practicable and in accordance with applicable guidelines, during the suspension of onsite work in educational institutions and learning centers.

Section 4. Suspension Mechanisms. The suspension of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work in all public and private educational institutions and learning centers shall be governed by the following rules:

a. **Automatic suspension** - Suspension shall automatically take effect, without need of further declaration, upon the issuance by the PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, DENR-EMB, or other competent national government agency of a warning, advisory, alert level, forecast, or other official issuance that meets the applicable hazard and technical threshold prescribed in the guidelines issued pursuant to this Order.

b. **Localized suspension** - In the absence of an applicable automatic suspension, the LCE, in his or her capacity as Chairperson of the concerned Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, in coordination with the concerned agency and the NDRRMC, may declare a localized suspension within specific areas in their jurisdiction based on documented local risk assessments and prevailing conditions.

   The declaration shall clearly specify: (i) the areas covered, which may include the entire locality or specific areas thereof, including specific *barangays* and, as far as practicable, the educational institutions and learning centers covered; and (ii) the period or duration of the suspension.

   For this purpose, the LCE shall consult with the concerned *Punong Barangays*, schools division superintendent, and heads of private educational institutions, as may be necessary, in determining the scope and duration of the suspension.

   During the suspension of in-person classes, whenever feasible and appropriate, the concerned educational institution or learning center shall determine and implement the appropriate alternative delivery modes.

c. **Granular suspension** - In the absence of an applicable automatic suspension or localized suspension declared by the concerned LCE, an educational institution or learning center may, through its duly authorized official, declare granular suspension, in coordination with the concerned LCE, upon the determination that an actual or imminent threat to the safety, health, or welfare of learners and personnel exists based on documented site-specific conditions.

Section 5. Resumption Mechanisms. The resumption of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work in all public and private educational institutions and learning centers shall be governed by the following rules:

a. **Automatic and localized resumption** - In-person classes and activities, and onsite work shall automatically resume upon the expiration of the period specified in the suspension order or once the applicable warning, advisory, alert level, forecast, or declaration has been lifted, downgraded, expired, or ceased, and the required safety assessment inspections under this Order

have been completed.

b. **Granular resumption** - Granular resumption may be undertaken in the following circumstances:

   i. Where a localized suspension declared by the concerned LCE remains in effect, an educational institution or learning center may, through its duly authorized official, seek the earlier resumption of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work based on documented site-specific conditions warranting resumption, subject to the concurrence of the concerned LCE; and

   ii. Where the educational institution or learning center had previously declared a granular suspension pursuant to Section 4(c) of this Order, it may, through its duly authorized official, declare the resumption of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work, in coordination with the concerned LCE.

In both cases, granular resumption shall be based on a documented site-specific assessment demonstrating that the conditions warranting suspension no longer exist or have been sufficiently mitigated to ensure the safety of learners and personnel, including safe and unimpeded access to and from the institution.

Section 6. Agency Directives. To ensure the effective implementation of this Order, all concerned agencies are directed to undertake coordinated actions within their respective mandates, as follows:

a. The DepEd, as the lead implementing agency, shall oversee, monitor, and coordinate the overall implementation of this Order, including the issuance and updating, in coordination with concerned agencies, of the applicable guidelines necessary for its effective implementation, and provide technical assistance to educational institutions and learning centers, including the development of learning continuity measures.

b. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall ensure that LGUs, through their respective Offices of the Building Official, facilitate and expedite the processing and issuance of building permits and safety clearances required by schools, coordinate and monitor the implementation of this Order among LGUs and other relevant stakeholders within their respective jurisdictions, and monitor compliance with this Order.

c. The PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, and DENR-EMB shall issue timely technical advisories to the public, periodically review the technical thresholds provided in this Order, provide technical guidance to implementing agencies, and disseminate official hazard information through appropriate communication channels.

d. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall conduct site-specific assessments and mobilize its regional offices to assess affected educational facilities and related infrastructure following disasters and other hazards, report its findings, and provide technical assistance to concerned LGUs.

Section 7. Implementing Guidelines. Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Order, the DepEd, in coordination with CHED, TESDA, DOST, PAGASA, PHIVOLCS, DENR-EMB, DILG, DPWH, and other concerned agencies, shall promulgate the guidelines necessary for its effective implementation, including the specific technical thresholds, grounds, criteria, documentary requirements, timelines, and coordination procedures governing the mechanisms provided in this Order.

Section 8. Concurrent Authority. Nothing in this Order shall limit the authority of the President to suspend or resume in-person classes and activities, and onsite work, whether nationwide or within specified areas, whenever required by public safety, national security, disaster response, public health, or the general welfare of the public. The Office of the President, through the Executive Secretary, may issue such directives as may be necessary.

Section 9. Funding. The initial funding required for the implementation of this Order shall be charged against the current and available appropriations of the DepEd and other concerned agencies, subject to pertinent budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations. Thereafter, the funding requirements necessary for the continued implementation of this Order shall be included in the budget proposals of the DepEd and other concerned agencies, subject to the usual budget preparation process.

Section 10. Separability. If any section or part of this Order is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. Repeal. EO No. 66 (s. 2012) is hereby amended insofar as the suspension of in-person classes and activities, and onsite work in educational institutions and learning centers is concerned. All other issuances, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 12. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 28th day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

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By the President:

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RALPH G. RECTO
Acting Executive Secretary

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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