



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1116
Tel Nos. 9296626 to 29 ; 9296633 to 35
Website <http://www.denr.gov.ph/> Emailweb@denrgov.ph

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

THE DIRECTOR
Environmental Management Bureau

FROM : **THE UNDERSECRETARY**
Field Operations and Environment

SUBJECT : **OBSERVANCE OF THE WORLD ANTIMICROBIAL
AWARENESS WEEK 2021 HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON
NOVEMBER 18-24, 2021**

DATE : NOV 08 2021

Referred to your respective Offices is the email letter dated 28 October 2021 from Dr. Anna Melissa Guerrero of the Department of Health regarding the aforementioned subject.

In response to their request attached herewith is the DOH DMC No. 202-00467 for your information and ready reference and/or adoption and dissemination to your networks.

For consideration.


ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, *CESO I*

c.c.

Office of the Secretary

Dr. Anna Melissa Guerrero
Department of Health

MEMO NO. 2021 - 759



Office of the Secretary <osec@denr.gov.ph>

[ADVANCE COPY] Letter for DENR re: WAAW 2021 High Level Media Forum

1 message

Program on Combating Antimicrobial Resistance DOH <amr@doh.gov.ph> Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 10:32 AM
To: ohea.denr@gmail.com, osec@denr.gov.ph, EMB CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR <emb.co.od@gmail.com>, fatima_molina@emb.gov.ph, sammy aytona <sammy_aytona@emb.gov.ph>, Roger Evangelista <roger_evangelista@emb.gov.ph>, emb@emb.gov.ph, geri_sanez@emb.gov.ph, od@emb.gov.ph, william_cunado@emb.gov.ph
Cc: "Guerrero, Anna Melissa" <asguerrero@doh.gov.ph>, Regina Berba <rpberba@gmail.com>, Johanna Mallari <jbmallari@doh.gov.ph>, Katherine Balboa <kdbalboa@doh.gov.ph>, "MA. MICHELLE Balbontin" <mmbalbontin@doh.gov.ph>

Dear Secretary Cimatú:

Warm greetings from the Department of Health!

The World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is being observed and celebrated every third week of November worldwide to increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and to advocate best practices among the general public, health workers, and policymakers in order to prevent the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections. To strengthen the campaign against AMR and to advocate for urgent action by leaders across all sectors to combat the accelerating crisis of AMR, the local celebration of the WAAW will be kicked off with a **High-Level Virtual Media Forum on 18 November 2021 (Thursday), 9:00 to 11:00 AM** via the Zoom platform.

As one of the members of the Inter-Agency Committee on AMR (ICAMR), we are cordially inviting you to deliver a **three-minute message of support** to stop misuse and overuse of antimicrobials and to fight the AMR problem through multi-stakeholder collaboration. The message may be delivered live or pre-recorded, depending on your availability and preference. Please find attached an advance copy of the invitation letter. Rest assured that the signed copy of the letter shall be sent to you as soon as available.

Additionally, we request the kind assistance of your good Office in the dissemination of the attached Department Circular No. 2021-0467 which contains guidance on the **Observance of the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2021 on November 18-24, 2021**. Adoption and dissemination of the campaign guidance to your network shall greatly contribute in promoting public awareness on AMR and the important role that each of us have to play in tackling and combating the AMR problem.

For confirmation of attendance or other concerns, the AMR secretariat will coordinate with your Office through this email address.

Thank you very much in anticipation of your prompt and favorable response to this invitation. We look forward to having you in this event.

Respectfully yours,

FOR: ANNA MELISSA S. GUERRERO, MD, MPH (HTA)
Chief, Pharmaceutical Division
Health Regulation Team


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AMR Secretariat


Pharmaceutical Division
Health Regulation Team
Department of Health
Alternate emails: amr.secretariat@gmail.com /
icamrsecretariat.doh@gmail.com
Telephone: (02) 8-875-7734 loc 268

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3 attachments**Letter for DENR - WAAW Media Forum (Advance Copy).pdf**

 138K

 **WAAW 2021 High Level Media Forum Provisional Program.pdf**
186K

 **DC 2021-0467 (WAAW 2021).pdf**
11257K



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

25 October 2021

ADVANCE COPY

SECRETARY ROY A. CIMATU

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

Dear **Secretary Cimatu**:

Warm greetings from the Department of Health!

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most serious and urgent global threats to public health even before the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified education and awareness campaigns as fundamental strategies in the Global Action Plan to combat AMR. In relation to this, the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) is being observed and celebrated every third week of November worldwide to increase awareness of global AMR and to advocate best practices among the general public, health workers, and policymakers in order to prevent the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections. The Philippines, as one of the forefront WHO member states actively fighting against AMR, has been participating in this global activity through the celebration of the Philippine Antimicrobial Awareness Week (PAAW) since 2015.

As in previous years, the One Health slogan for AMR Awareness and WAAW is "**Antimicrobials: Handle with Care**" applicable to all sectors. Meanwhile, the global theme for WAAW 2021 is "**Spread awareness, stop resistance.**" As we celebrate WAAW this year in the country, we will be adopting the local theme, "*Kaalaman ay dagdagan, antimicrobial resistance sa gitna ng COVID-19 pandemya ay labanan.*" With this theme, we engage stakeholders across all relevant sectors to raise awareness on AMR and to increase recognition of the important roles that they play to encourage behavior change towards the prudent and rational use of antimicrobials in order to mitigate the unintended long-term consequences associated with antibiotic overuse during the pandemic and to avoid future pandemic of AMR.

To strengthen the AMR campaign and to advocate for urgent action by leaders across all sectors to combat the accelerating crisis of AMR, the celebration of WAAW will be kicked off with a **High-Level Virtual Media Forum on 18 November 2021 (Thursday), 9:00 to 11:00 AM** via the Zoom platform.

In this regard, we are cordially inviting you or your official representative to deliver a three-minute message of support to stop misuse and overuse of antimicrobials and to fight the AMR problem through multi-stakeholder collaboration. The message may be delivered live or pre-

recorded, depending on your availability and preference. The teleconference link shall be sent to your office prior to the event.

Additionally, we request the kind assistance of your good Office in the dissemination of the attached Department Circular No. 2021-0467 which contain guidance on the *Observance of the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2021 on November 18-24, 2021*. Adoption and dissemination of the campaign guidance to your network shall greatly contribute in promoting public awareness on AMR and the important role that each of us have to play in tackling and combating the AMR problem.

For confirmation of attendance or other concerns, Ms. Katherine Balboa and/or Ms. Michelle Balbontin-Rivero of the AMR secretariat will coordinate with your Office through email at amr@doh.gov.ph or icamrsecretariat.doh@gmail.com. They may also be reached through mobile numbers 09062384116 or 09275358704.

Thank you very much in anticipation of your prompt and favorable response to this invitation. We look forward to having you in this event.

Very truly yours,

FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary of Health

**World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (WAAW) 2021
High-Level Media Forum**

Date: 18 November 2021
Time: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Medium: Zoom Platform

**Theme: ““Kaalaman ay dagdagan, antimicrobial resistance sa gitna ng COVID-19
pandemya ay labanan.”**

TIME	TOPICS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
9:00 – 9:05 AM	Introduction	Dr. Anna Melissa Guerrero Chief, Pharmaceutical Division Department of Health
9:05 – 9:10 AM	Welcome Remarks / Opening Message	Secretary Francisco Duque III Secretary of Health Department of Health
9:10 – 9:13 AM	Combating AMR amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic through One Health Approach Key Messages from the One Health Tripartite	Dr. Rabindra Abeyasinghe Representative in the Philippines World Health Organization (WHO)
9:13 – 9:16 AM		Ms. Kati Tanninen Representative in the Philippines Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations
9:16 – 9:19 AM		Dr. Ronello Abila Sub-regional Representative in South-East Asia World Organisation of Animal Health
9:19 – 9:22 AM		Dr. Dechen Tsering Director for Asia and the Pacific United Nations Environment Programme
9:22 – 9:25 AM	Messages of Support from the Member Agencies of the Inter-Agency Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance (ICAMR)	Hon. William Dar Secretary, Department of Agriculture
9:25 – 9:28 AM		Hon. Fortunato De La Peña Secretary, Department of Science and Technology
9:28 – 9:31 AM		Hon. Eduardo Año Secretary, Department of Interior and Local Government

9:31 – 9:34 AM		Hon. Ramon Lopez Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry
9:34 – 10:37 AM		Hon. Roy Cimatu Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
9:37 - 9:40 AM		Hon. Leonor Briones Secretary, Department of Education
9:40 – 9:43 AM		Hon. J. Prospero De Vera Chairperson, Commission on Higher Education
9:43 – 9:46 AM		Hon. Isidro Lapeña Secretary, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
9:46 – 9:51 AM		Hon. Rolando Enrique Domingo Director General, Food and Drug Administration
9:51 – 10:00 AM	Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)	
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Open Forum with National Stakeholders Moderators: Dr. Anna Melissa Guerrero Chief, Pharmaceutical Division and AMR Program Secretariat Dr. Alicia Layson Focal Person for AMR, Bureau of Animal Industry	Ms. Leila Areola Director, Bureau of Learning Delivery Department of Education Engr. William Cuñado Director, Environment Management Bureau Department of Environment and Natural Resources Dr. Evalyn Roxas President, Philippine Hospital Infection Control Society Dr. Corazon Occidental President, Philippine Veterinary Medical Association Dr. Clemencia Bondoc

		<p>President, Association of Municipal Health Officers of the Philippines (AMHOP)</p> <p>Ms. Ma. Gilda Sebuja-Saljay Philippine Pharmacists Association</p> <p>Ms. Jovelyn Blancaflor President, Drugstore Association of the Philippines</p> <p>Mrs. Maria Fatima Garcia-Lorenzo President, Philippine Association of Patient Organizations</p> <p>Mr. Joseph Rem C. Dela Cruz President, UP Medical Students for Social Responsibility</p>
10:30 – 10:35 AM	AMR Pledge of Commitment	Mrs. Maria Fatima Garcia-Lorenzo President, Philippine Association of Patient Organizations
10:35 – 10:50 AM	WAAW 2021 Activities and Contest	Dr. Regina Berba
10:50 – 10:55 AM	Closing Message	Secretary William Dar Secretary, Department of Agriculture
10:55 – 11:00 AM	Photo Documentation	

In the Philippines, as we celebrate the WAAW this year, we will be adopting the local theme, "*Kaalaman ay dagdagan, antimicrobial resistance sa gitna ng COVID-19 pandemya ay labanan.*" Antibiotic overuse in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic may potentially exacerbate the AMR situation in the country and may put stewardship efforts at risk. With this theme, we engage stakeholders across all relevant sectors to raise awareness on AMR and to increase recognition of the important roles that they play to encourage behavior change towards the prudent and rational use of antimicrobials in order to mitigate the unintended long-term consequences associated with antibiotic overuse during the pandemic and to avoid future pandemic of AMR.

In this regard, we enjoin your offices to actively participate in the WAAW 2021 Campaign through the following (*adopted from the WAAW 2021 Campaign Guidance*):

- **Be AMR Awareness Champions:** Plan and organize fun and interactive activities, events, and/or contests targeting leaders and all relevant stakeholders to raise AMR awareness to your organization, workplaces, institutions, and families. Actively participate in WAAW events and activities organized by different sectors and development partners and share it with your colleagues and network. Join the movement to fight AMR by sharing AMR stories and become *Stewards for the Future* by taking the pledge <https://pledge.antibioticawarenessweek.org/>
- **Social media presence:** We encourage partner offices and stakeholders to continue the advocacy by disseminating advocacy and information, education, and communication (IEC) materials related to the abovementioned W/PAAW themes through social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Tiktok, Twitter, Instagram). When posting AMR-related materials, social media cards (SMCs) or stories, please use the following hashtag:
#WAAW #AntimicrobialResistance #AMR #HandleWithCare
#WintheWarAgainstAMR #PAAW2021
- **Go Blue for AMR Awareness:** In an effort to improve global visibility of the AMR problem, the color **light blue**¹ has been selected by the Tripartite Organization for the WAAW campaign. All are invited to join the color campaign to build awareness of AMR and the preservation and protection of the efficacy of antimicrobials.
 - **Go Blue as an individual** by (a) wearing blue during WAAW events, (b) adjusting your social media profiles with WAAW campaign digital resources, or (c) telling your family, peers, colleagues and communities why you "Go Blue" during WAAW ("*I'm going blue to demonstrate my commitment as a healthcare provider to use antimicrobials responsibly*")
 - **Go Blue as a workplace** by lighting up blue the façade of your workplace throughout the week and sharing reasons for "going blue" as an institution
 - **Go Blue as a community** by participating in the "light up blue" activity. On the final day of WAAW on November 24, all local landmarks and other buildings (including health facilities, work places, public buildings and offices,

¹ HEX #00b7e2, CMYK 100%, 19%, 0%, 11%, RGB 0, 183, 226, HSV 191, 100%, 89%, HSL 191, 100%, 44%

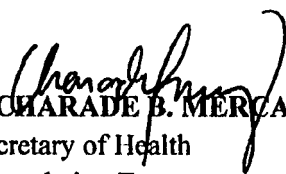
etc.) are encouraged to light up in light blue to raise AMR awareness and demonstrate commitment to being stewards for responsible antimicrobial use across sectors.

The details of the online activities in celebration of WAAW shall be disseminated through email and will be posted on the Pharmaceutical Division (PD) website (www.pharma.doh.gov.ph), ICAMR website (www.icamr.doh.gov.ph) and PAAW Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/doh.paaw>) in due course.

With your continuous support and cooperation, this campaign will further promote public awareness on AMR and the important role that each of us have to play and contribute in tackling AMR and combatting it through one health approach.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is hereby requested. Thank you.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Health Regulation Team