

Republic of the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

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DEC 2 7 2002

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2002 - 20

SUBJECT

STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF "NO SMOKING POLICY" INSIDE ALL DENR OFFICES

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1, Rule XXIX OF Republic Act 8749 or the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999, all Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Bureau Directors, Regional Executive Director and Heads of Attached Agencies are hereby instructed to implement and strictly enforce a ban on smoking inside their respective offices.

This is primarily aimed to safeguard the health of our personnel and to uphold the right of the people to a balanced and healthy ecology, since we are the government agency mandated to conserve and manage the proper use of our natural resources where air is considered a valuable common property that should be preserved.

Furthermore, the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Clean Air Act of 1999 clearly states that a "No Smoking" policy shall be enforced inside a public building or an enclosed public place or private place of work or any enclosed area outside of one's private residence. As such, each office shall designate a specific smoking area within their vicinity but outside enclosed office spaces.

All DENR personnel are hereby enjoined to support this permanent ban on smoking within office premises.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

ELISEA G GOZUN,