



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 3, 2011

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ORDER

No. 2011- 0888

SUBJECT: CREATION OF THE TB TASKFORCE FOR SPECIAL STUDIES

Indicators under Goal 6 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) are “incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis”. In order for these indicators to be properly evaluated, accurate and reliable data must be collected. However, not all of the needed data can be collected through the routine TB information system, thus, the need for the conduct of special studies. These studies shall also serve as measures to monitor the progress of PhilPACT implementation. Current TB initiatives/projects can also benefit from the special studies overseen by this Task Force.

The special studies aim to strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the National TB Program (NTP) by providing reliable data that will reveal the true picture of the country’s progress on its fight against Tuberculosis. With accurate data established, the NTP can evaluate the effectiveness of the program and make the necessary modifications in the current system to reduce the mortality of TB.

In this light, it is imperative that a special sub-group that consists of experts be created. The group shall oversee the implementation of the different studies and shall serve as an approving body that will assist the TB-Technical Working Group on its functions.

In this regard, the following DOH officials and staff, private institutions, academe, and developmental partners are hereby authorized to be members of the TB Task Force for Special Studies:

A. TB Task Force for Special Studies

Chairperson: Director, National Epidemiology Center

Co-Chairs: Director, Infectious Disease Office - National Center Disease Prevention and Control

Chief, Survey Risk Assessment and Evaluation Division - National Epidemiology Center

Members:

Representatives from:

1. Infectious Disease Office – National TB Program
2. National Epidemiology Center - Survey Risk Assessment and Evaluation
3. Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis
4. University of the Philippines – College of Public Health

5. World Vision Foundation, Incorporated
6. Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau
7. Philippine Center for Health Research and Development (Department of Science and Technology)

Representatives from other DOH Central and Field offices, local government units, non-government organizations, development partners, cooperating agencies, academe and other government agency partners would be invited by the TB Task Force on Special Studies depending on the area of concern for discussions, agreements and policy recommendations.

Advisers:

Representatives from:

1. World Health Organization (country office)
2. United States Agency for International Development
3. Philippine Business for Social Progress

B. Technical and Secretariat Support Staff:

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|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Ms. Rigil Kate Leyva | NEC |
| 2. Ms. Joseth Jane Leonida | NEC |
| 3. Ms. Maria Adona Galvan | NEC |
| 4. Ms. Angeline Mae Barrera | NEC |
| 5. Ms. Nancy Dabu | NEC |
| 6. Dr. Ronald Allan Fabella | IDO |
| 7. Mr. Lorenz Reyes | IDO |

C. Roles and Functions:

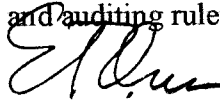
- The TB Taskforce for Special Studies shall have the following tasks and functions:
 1. Oversee the proper implementation of special studies identified by the TB program relative to the PhilPACT implementation as approved by the TB-TWG. These shall be funded by the Global Fund through PBSP. Such initial studies shall include the following:
 - 1.1 TB Mortality Study
 - 1.2 Client Satisfaction Survey
 - 1.3 Data Quality Assessment
 2. Reviews and approves the Terms of Reference of the proponents of special studies.
 3. Reviews and approves the technical and operational design including acceptable financial requirements.
 4. Ensures that the proposal undergoes Ethics Review Board prior to project implementation
 5. Advises the TWG in terms of acceptability of special studies.
 6. Recommends to the Department of Health-Technical Assistance Coordination Team (DOH-TACT) for possible endorsement if necessary.
 7. Provides periodic feedback of the progress of the study to the TB-TWG.

8. Evaluates and recommends to the TB-TWG acceptability and possible replication of the study as needed.
9. Convenes venue for dissemination of results in consultation with TB-TWG.

- The Technical and Secretariat Support Staff shall have the following tasks and functions:

1. Establishes and circulates convening notice and meeting agenda.
2. Identifies the hosts and venues for meetings of the subcommittee and the subcontractors.
3. Arranges the circulation of all documents on the agenda, including reports of working groups and provides all other documents which are necessary for discussion during the meeting.
4. Prepares compilation of comments and recommendations made on the previous meetings and makes it available to all members.
5. Records decisions during the meeting and making these decisions available in writing for confirmation during the meeting.
6. Prepares the minutes of meeting.

Under this Order, expenses to be incurred during the conduct of meetings and other related activities of the TB Task Force for special studies shall be charged against the fund of the M&E TB RCC Consolidated Grant under the Philippine Business for Social Progress subject to the availability of funds and the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.



ENRIQUE T. ONA, MD, FPCS, FACS
Secretary of Health