

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

February 6, 2017

**DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

No. 2017- 0075

**FOR: SECRETARY OF HEALTH OF AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, ALL DOH REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTORS, CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS AND DOH-RETAINED HOSPITALS**

**SUBJECT: World TB Day Commemoration on March 24, 2017**

World TB Day (WTBD) Commemoration is observed annually every 24<sup>th</sup> day of March to pay tribute to the discovery of TB bacilli in 1882 which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing the disease. This national advocacy event has become a valuable opportunity for the National TB Control Program (NTP) and partners to raise public awareness that TB remains a major public health concern.

As one nation working together towards TB elimination in 2035, the Department of Health in collaboration with the Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis and the World Vision Development Foundation Incorporated will conduct the National World TB Day Commemoration on *March 24, 2017* at Quezon Institute Compound, Quezon City.

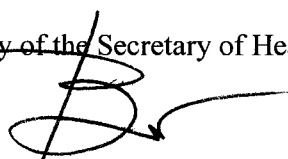
In this year's WTBD commemoration, the DOH will adopt the national theme: **SAMA-SAMANG TULDUKAN ANG TB!**, in cognizance with the WHO's global theme of "*Unite to End TB*" which aims to end the global TB epidemic as one of the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In view of this, all are hereby encouraged to actively support and cooperate for the successful observance of the World TB Day in your respective region. As such, the following activities are suggested to be conducted:

1. Public service announcement
2. Textblast
3. Social media postings
4. Lay forum
5. Scientific workshops
6. Posting of tarpaulin/posters in strategic areas

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is advised.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health

  
**GERARDO V. BAYUGO, MD, MPH, CESO III**  
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Office for Technical Services