

February 25, 2014

OFFICE ORDER No. **54**

Institutionalizing the Creation of the Gender and Development Focal Point System (GFPS)

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women, and Memorandum Circular No. 2011-01 of the Philippine Commission on Women, agencies with existing GFPS or similar mechanisms shall establish or strengthen said mechanism to catalyze and accelerate gender mainstreaming.

The GFPS shall be composed of the Head of the Agency, Executive Committee and Technical Working Group (TWG). The GFPS shall perform the following functions:

1. Lead in mainstreaming gender perspective in agency/department policies, plans and programs. In the process, they shall ensure the assessment of the gender-responsiveness of systems, structures, policies, programs, processes, and procedures of the agency based on the priority needs and concerns of constituencies and employees and the formulation of recommendations including their implementation;
2. Assist in the formulation of new policies such as the GAD Code in advancing women's status, such as in the case of LGUs;
3. Lead in setting up appropriate systems and mechanisms to ensure the generation, processing, review and updating of sex-disaggregated data or GAD database to serve as basis in performance-based gender responsive planning;
4. Coordinate efforts of different divisions, offices, units of the agency and advocate for the integration of GAD perspectives in all their systems and processes;
5. Spearhead the preparation of the agency annual performance-based GAD Plans, Programs and Budget in response to gender issues of their constituencies and clients and in the context of their agency mandate, and consolidate the same following the format and procedure prescribed by the PCW, DBM and NEDA in the Joint Circular 2012-1. The GFPS shall likewise be responsible for submitting the consolidated GAD Plans and Budgets of the department/agency, and as needed, in responding to PCW's comments or requests for additional information.
6. Lead in monitoring the effective implementation of GAD-related policies and the annual GAD Plans, Programs and Budget;
7. Lead the preparation and consolidation of the annual agency GAD Accomplishment Report and other GAD Reports that maybe required under the MCW;
8. Strengthen the external link with other agencies or organizations working on women's rights and gender and development to harmonize and synchronize GAD efforts at various levels of governance;
9. Promote and actively pursue the participation of women and gender advocates, other civil society groups and private organizations in the various stages of the development planning cycle, giving special attention to the marginalized sectors; and

10. Ensure that all personnel of the agency including the finance officers (e.g. accountant, budget officer, auditors) are capacitated on GAD. Along this line, the GFPS will recommend and plan an appropriate capacity development program on gender and development for its employees as part of and implemented under its regular human resource development program.

The GFPS Chairperson or Head of Agency shall be responsible for the following:

1. Issue policies or other directives that support GAD mainstreaming in the policies, plans, programs, projects and activities, budget, systems and procedures of the agency including the creation, strengthening, modification or reconstitution of the GFPS;
2. Approve the GAD Plan, Program and Budget of the agency as duly endorsed by the Executive Committee, with the assistance of TWG, and ensure its implementation;

To ensure that all Sectors and functional areas are represented in GAD matters, all members of the Management Committee and C-level officers shall constitute the Bank's GFPS Executive Committee.

A. The Executive Committee shall:

1. Provide direction and give policy advice to the GFPS Chair to support and strengthen the System and DBP's mainstreaming activities;
2. Direct the identification of GAD strategies, programs, activities and projects based on the results of the gender audit, gender analysis and according to the identified priorities of the Bank in response to the gender issues of its clients and employees;
3. Ensure the timely submission of GD Plan and Budget, Accomplishment Report and other GAD-related reports to the PCW and to DBM;
4. Ensure the effective and efficient implementation of GAD programs, activities and projects and the judicious utilization of the GAD Budget;
5. Build and strengthen partnership with PCW, GAD experts, advocates, women's groups and other stakeholders in pursuit of gender mainstreaming;
6. Recommend approval of GAD Plans and Budgets and GAD ARs; and
7. Recommend Awards or recognition to outstanding institutional GAD programs, activities and projects and/or GAD PF members.

B. HRMG, SPR and Corporate Affairs shall constitute the Bank's Technical Working Group for GFPS. As Secretariat to the Bank's GFPS, the TWG shall:

1. Facilitate the implementation of the gender mainstreaming efforts of the agency through the GAD planning and budgeting process;
2. Formulate agency GAD Plans, Programs and Budget in response to the gender gaps and issues faced by their clients and constituencies, women and men employees, following the conduct of a gender audit, gender analysis, and/or review of sex disaggregated data;

3. Assist in the capacity development of and provide technical assistance to the agency, and as needed, to officers in the other offices or units. In this regard, the TWG shall work with the human resource development office on the development and implementation of an appropriate capacity development program on gender equality and women's empowerment for its employees, and as requested or deemed necessary, for other offices under the Department or Agency, as the case may be;
4. Coordinate with the various units of the agency including its regional and attached agencies and ensure their meaningful participation in GAD strategic and annual planning exercises. The TWG of the GFPS of the central agency shall coordinate with the GFPS of its attached agencies, bureaus and regional offices especially on the preparation, consolidation and submission of GAD Plans and Budgets;
5. Lead the conduct of advocacy activities and the development of IEC materials to ensure critical support of agency officials, staff and relevant stakeholders to the activities of the GAD Focal Point System and GAD mainstreaming activities;
6. Monitor the implementation of GAD-related programs, activities and projects in their respective offices and suggest corrective measures to improve implementation of GAD PAPs and GFPS activities;
7. Prepare and consolidate agency GAD accomplishment reports; and
8. Provide regular updates and recommendations to the head of agency or ExeCom on the activities of the GFPS and the progress of agency GAD mainstreaming activities based on the feedback and reports of the various units of the agency.

This Office Order shall take effect immediately.



GIL A. BUENAVENTURA
President & Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFIED COPY:



FVP DANNY E. BUNYI

Corporate Secretary

February 25, 2014