[MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 88, August 20, 2021]

EXTENDING THE APPLICABILITY OF MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 87 (s. 2021) ON THE ON-SITE CAPACITY TO BE OBSERVED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION FOR THE PERIOD OF 21 TO 31 AUGUST 2021

WHEREAS, as of 20 August 2021, there are a total of One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Two Hundred Fifty One (123,251) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, as of 15 August 2021, the Philippines has detected a total of one hundred eighty two (182) Delta variant cases in the country, forty-two (42) of which are from the National Capita! Region (NCR);

WHEREAS, after a fifteen-day period under which NCR was under an Enhanced Community Quarantine, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases placed such region under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) from 21 to 31 August 2021;

WHEREAS, the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended (Omnibus Guidelines), provides for the on-site capacities of establishments, industries, and sectors, including government agencies and instrumentalities in areas under the different quarantine classifications;

WHEREAS, the Omnibus Guidelines provides that, in areas under either Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) or MECQ, agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency, unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing hearth and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services;

WHEREAS, for the most recent period that NCR was under ECQ, Memorandum Circular No. 87 (s. 2021) was issued, providing for a minimum on-site capacity for all government agencies and instrumentalities of the executive branch in the NCR, including government — owned or — controlled corporations (GOCCs), which shall not be less than 20% at any given time, with the remainder being under work-from-home arrangements;

WHEREAS, considering the COVID-19 situation in NCR, together with the need to continue delivering public services even under the more restrictive forms of community quarantine, extending the implementation of Memorandum Circular No. 87 is imperative;