

[OP EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 66, January 09, 2012]

PRESCRIBING RULES ON THE CANCELLATION OR SUSPENSION OF CLASSES AND WORK IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES DUE TO TYPHOONS, FLOODING, OTHER WEATHER DISTURBANCES, AND CALAMITIES

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the State to uphold the people's constitutional rights to life, health, safety and property and to promote the general welfare of its people at all times, especially during disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, it is likewise the declared policy of the State to institutionalize the policies, structures, coordination mechanism and programs on disaster risk reduction from national down to local levels; recognize the local risk patterns across the country and strengthen the capacity of Local Government Units (LGUs) for disaster risk reduction and management through decentralized powers, responsibilities, and resources at the regional and local levels;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) is the agency of the government mandated to observe and report the weather of the Philippines and specified adjacent areas, and to issue forecasts and warnings of weather and flood condition affecting national safety, welfare and economy;

WHEREAS, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) is a government entity mandated to establish a national early warning and emergency alert system to provide accurate and timely advice to national or local emergency response organizations and to the general public through diverse mass media; and recommend to the President the declaration of a state of calamity in areas extensively damaged; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to streamline the procedure in the suspension of classes and work in government offices in times of typhoons, floods and other disasters or calamities to spare the pupils, students, government workers and the general public from unnecessary dangers to their lives and limbs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the Philippines , by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order;

Section 1. Automatic Cancellation or Suspension of Classes and Work in Government Offices, The following guidelines shall be followed for the automatic cancellation or suspension of classes in all public and private elementary, secondary and tertiary schools, as well as work in all government offices:

- a. When **Signal No. 1** is raised by PAGASA, classes at the pre-school level, in the affected area, shall be automatically cancelled or suspended.