



# Boy Scouts of the Philippines

## National Office

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22 February 2023

### NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Number: 19 s. 2023

**TO :** ALL EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACT OF SERVICE,  
AND LOCAL COUNCIL OFFICE EMPLOYEES

**SUBJECT :** 2023 NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION

The BSP joins the annual observance of the National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) 2023. NWMC is conducted annually in recognition of women's significant contribution in nation-building. This celebration is also part of the worldwide observance of the International Women's Day.

In line with this, we invite All BSP Employees at National Office, Regional Office, Camps, and Local Council Staff to actively participate in the observance of 2023 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) with the theme: "WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society" and to join our online gender advocacy by sharing your photos taken during the activities in our Official BSP-GAD Facebook Page.

All activities will be conducted virtually through Zoom Platform, in consideration of the safety and security of the participants. Zoom links will be distributed through email or through BSP's Official Facebook Page before the conduct of the Webinars. Resource Speakers will be invited from Philippine Commission on Women and other sectors.

For reply and queries, you may contact us through this email [gad.bsp@scouts.org.ph](mailto:gad.bsp@scouts.org.ph) or at +639985923145 and look for Mr. Frederick E. Bonifacio, BSP GAD Coordinator.

Please see more information through attached documents herewith. For your information, guidance and compliance.

  
**DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO**

*Officer-In-Charge*

Office of the Secretary General

CC: National President, DALE B. CORVERA  
OIC, Secretary General, DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO  
Division Directors  
Regional Scout Directors  
Local Council Staffs  
Resident Auditor, Commission on Audit  
Program Management Team  
Central Records  
File

## I. PROGRAM RATIONALE/BACKGROUND

1. **Proclamation No. 224 s. of 1988 “Declaring the First Week of March of Every Year as Women’s Week and March 8, 1988,** and Every Year Thereafter as Women’s Rights and International Peace Day.” Signed by former President Corazon C. Aquino on March 1, 1988, it affirmed our solidarity with the United Nations and recognized Filipino women’s contribution to the struggle for national independence, civil liberties, equality and human rights.
2. **Proclamation No. 227 s. 1988 “Providing for the observance of the Month of March as ‘Women’s Role in History Month’** Signed by President Aquino on March 17, 1988, reinforced the earlier proclamation by emphasizing the role of Filipino women in the social, cultural, economic and political development throughout our history. It provided for a month-long nationwide observance with appropriate ceremonies and activities to be spearheaded by the Commission.
3. **Republic Act (RA) 6949 s. 1990 “An Act to declare March Eight of Every Year as a Working Special Holiday to be known as National Women’s Day”** was signed by President Aquino on April 10, 1990. The law further strengthened the impetus for the celebration by declaring every March 8 as a special working holiday and enjoining employees from the government and private sector to participate in activities conducted by their offices.
4. **Theme.** The PCW Board Members and Inter-Agency Technical Working Group identified the NWMC theme **“WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society”** which shall be used from 2023-2028. It sparks a renewed commitment to the advocacy and builds on the gains achieved during the 2016-2022 theme, We Make CHANGE Work for Women, which emphasized the need for compassionate and harmonized networks towards gender equality and women’s empowerment (GEWE).
5. **WE** stands for Women and Everyone emphasizing the role of women themselves and everyone in the pursuit of gender equality. WE also stands for Women’s Empowerment, which can only be achieved when agencies, mechanisms, institutions, private partners, and duty-bearers from the national to the local level provide women equal rights and opportunities, and women take these opportunities to further themselves. With women and everyone in synergy, WE can make gender equality a possibility. **Gender Equality** is the first half of GEWE advocacy, and it is the ultimate goal when we advance the rights of women. The term gender equality is also preceded by the word “for”, signifying our call to women and everyone to vote for, take action on, and promote equality and inclusivity. **Inclusive Society**, this is a call not only for a gender-responsive society but an inclusive one. A society that overrides differences in SOGIE, class, ability, generation, status, and culture; a society where every individual, each with rights and responsibilities, has an active role to play. Equality and inclusion go hand-in-hand in the GEWE advocacy.
6. **Objectives.** This program aims to:
  - a. Create and facilitate platforms to discuss good practices, gaps, challenges, and commitments in pursuing gender and development (GAD);
  - b. Inspire and empower men and women to be an agent for change for them to contribute in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women;
  - c. Inform and engage both men and women in gender advocacy and gender mainstreaming for the promotion of citizen-centric governance; and

## II. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY/IES	DATE	TIME
<b>Kick-off Activity: Introduction to National Women's Month Celebration and Launching of BSP Female Mascot</b>	March 8, 2023 Wednesday	9:00AM-12:00PM
<b>Seminar on Magna Carta for Women (Gender Equality and Women Empowerment)</b>		
<b>Seminar on Gender Sensitivity Training (SOGIESC)</b>	March 23, 2023 Thursday	9:00AM-12:00PM

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mr. Frederick E. Bonifacio  
Ms. Ivy Nicole A. Pagsanhan  
Mr. Jonnifer C. Mandigma  
Mr. Patrick John S. Laxamana  
Ms. Arvina S. Vinuya  
Mr. Marwin C. Ortega

**Project Officer**  
**Assistant Project Officer/Documentation**  
**Technical Officer/Special Disbursing Officer**  
**Support Staff/Attendance**  
**Support Staff/Food Arrangement**  
**Support Staff/Physical Arrangement**

## III. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/S

### 1. Kick-off Activity: Introduction to National Women's Month Celebration and Launching of BSP Female Mascot

This kick-off activity aims to show the significance of NWMC, its aim and objectives. The kick-off activity also aims to launch and showcase to the Scouting Community, as well as to the general public that the BSP caters to female members in the BSP particularly in the Senior Scouts and Rover Scouts Sectional Programs through the launching of BSP Female Mascot. The BSP Mascots (Male and Female) shall be used in all Scouting activities at National Office, Regional Offices, Local Council level such as Jamboree, Venture Camp, Rover Moot and participation of BSP in other Inter-Agency/National Activities like Independence Day Celebrations, LGU founding anniversary celebration, etc.)

### 2. Seminar on Magna Carta of Women (4hours)

This seminar aims to discuss to the participants the aim, objectives and other related legal basis of the MCW. The session also aims to present to the participants' the protection and rights they may be or their family needs to know. PCW-Accredited Resource Person shall be invited for this Virtual Seminar-Workshop.

### 3. Seminar on Gender Sensitivity Training (SOGIESC)

This seminar aims to describe basic gender-related concepts and identify how social institutions contribute to the perpetuation of gender issues/biases. The session also aims to differentiate sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, and appreciate the importance of SOGIESC in our GAD work and advocacy. PCW-Accredited Resource Person will be invited for the Virtual Seminar-Workshop.