



Republic of the Philippines
Department of the Interior and Local Government
NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, PNP
Camp Crame, Quezon City

SUBJECT : **Letter of Instructions 01-2011 (Amended)**
(Anti- Trafficking in Persons)

TO : See Distribution

DATE : **FEB 29 2012**

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Republic Act No. 9208 otherwise known as "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003";
- b. Act No. 3185 (The Revised Penal Code of the Philippines);
- c. Republic Act No. 7610 otherwise known as the "Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act";
- d. Republic Act No. 9262 otherwise known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women And Their Children Act of 2004";
- e. Republic Act No. 6955 otherwise known as the "Mail-Order Bride Law";
- f. Republic Act No. 7658 otherwise known as "An Act Prohibiting the Employment of Children Below 15 Years of Age in Public and Private Undertakings";
- g. Republic Act No. 8042 otherwise known as the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act";
- h. Republic Act No. 8043 otherwise known as the "Inter-Country Adoption Law";
- i. Republic Act No. 8239 otherwise known as the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996";
- j. Republic Act No. 8353 otherwise known as the "Anti-Rape Law of 1997";
- k. Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9208; and
- l. Manual on Law Enforcement and Prosecution of Trafficking in Persons.

2. PURPOSE:

This Letter of Instructions (LOI) prescribes the guidelines to be followed by tasked PNP Offices/Units in the enforcement of laws on anti-trafficking in persons not only within the Philippines but also across the country's borders in coordination with other government agencies both foreign and domestic.

3. SITUATION:

The Philippines is a source, transit and destination country for human trafficking. It is alarming to note that it has an internal trafficking of women and children from remote areas to urbanized places for sexual exploitation and forced labor like domestic factory workers, helpers or illegal drug trades.

Notwithstanding, the Philippine government demonstrated continued efforts to raise awareness and prevent trafficking in persons. Following the release of the 2008 US State Department Trafficking in Persons Report, the Philippines was placed in Tier 2. The country is doubling its efforts in combating human trafficking and gained momentum in its crusade against human trafficking through the conduct of workshops on developing a national prosecution strategy against human trafficking.

The Philippine government supports many projects to protect trafficking victims in the Philippines and abroad. The government offers temporary shelters, temporary residency status, relief from deportation, access to legal, medical, and psychological services to trafficking victims in the Philippines.

Consequently, a body known as the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) was created by law to coordinate and monitor the implementation of Republic Act No. 9208 otherwise known as the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003." The PNP is one of the members of the Council that further boost the government's drive against such criminal activity.

Right now, the Office in the PNP which addresses these concerns is the Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC). Such Office, on its own, cannot fully carry out the different aspects of law enforcement such as entrapment, apprehension, investigation, prosecution and advocacies programs.

To efficiently address the increasing reports and cases of human trafficking, the creation of a National Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee (NATC) and Regional Anti-Trafficking Task Groups (RATTG) is indispensable. The committee will have the authority to direct and mobilize units of the PNP to both proactively and reactively address the problem.

The scheme of trafficking is multi-faceted which needs a holistic approach. Along this line, it is imperative to enhance the advocacy and conduct a community-based information drive to increase public awareness about such problem, capability-building, partnership with other stakeholders, and rehabilitation.

The PNP National Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee (NATC) will also perform other acts as may be necessary for effective discharge of its functions and responsibilities.

4. MISSION:

The PNP shall conduct a relentless and effective campaign and advocacy against all forms of trafficking in persons in coordination with various law enforcement agencies both foreign and domestic, NGOs, and other concerned government agencies.

5. EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operations:

The PNP shall implement a more comprehensive proactive approach/strategy to complement existing PNP initiatives on Anti-Trafficking in Persons.

In the realization of the anti-trafficking campaign, a PNP National Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee (PNP-NATC) shall be created, headed by TDCO, as Chairman with TDIDM, TDI, TDHRDD, TDO, TDC, TDL, TDPCR, D, CIDG, D, LS, D, MG, D, AVSEGROUP and C, WCPC, as members. At the PROs, the Regional Anti-Trafficking in Persons Group (RATTG) shall likewise be activated with DRDO as the Head and Chiefs of RIDMD, RPCRD, RCIDU and WCPD, as members. Likewise, a Provincial Anti-Trafficking in Persons Task Group (PATG) shall be created at the Provincial level.

The PNP-NATC is tasked to monitor and oversee both proactive and reactive strategies and shall supervise the Regional Anti-Trafficking in Persons Task Group. The Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC) shall act as the Secretariat and Focal person of the Task Group while the WCPD in the Regional and Provincial Offices shall perform the same roles.

The PNP-NATC and the RATTG of the PROs shall take the lead role in the formulation, implementation, initiatives and campaign on various efforts involving trafficking in persons. One of the important components is to strengthen our partnership and cooperation with multi-sectoral organizations that have strong campaign against human trafficking.

On the other hand, the DIDM shall be the Office Primary Responsible (OPR) in multi-faceted concerns such as prevention activities, info-drive, and rehabilitation of victims.

Through this approach, a comprehensive training specifically on handling cases of Trafficking in Persons shall be provided to the field investigators not only to enhance their individual capability in investigation but to include the proper filing, and subsequent prosecution that will result in the successful conviction of the perpetrators. In the same manner, the said training shall include but not limited to the proper treatment and disposition of the victims with a view to respect their dignity and without encroachment of their human rights as the paramount consideration of this LOI.

b. Tasks:

1) NHQ, PNP

- a) TDCO-** Designated as the Over-all Chairman of the National Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee (PNP-NATC).

b) TDIDM

- 1) Designated as the OPR in the implementation of this LOI;
- 2) Direct and supervise the investigation of Trafficking in Persons cases;
- 3) Coordinate with the DPCR on advocacy initiatives pertaining to Trafficking in Persons;
- 4) Coordinate with the DHRDD on training matters pertaining to Trafficking in Persons;
- 5) Monitor the status of cases handled by all offices/units tasked to investigate Trafficking in Persons cases until prosecution phase;
- 6) Provide investigative capability and development program pertaining to Trafficking in Persons for all PNP investigators;
- 7) Coordinate with government prosecutors and other law enforcement agencies in the successful prosecution of Trafficking in Persons cases; and
- 8) Perform other tasks as directed.

c) TDPCR

- 1) Initiate advocacy measures to raise the consciousness of the public on human trafficking issues;
- 2) Actively take up Trafficking in Persons in all PICE sessions as well as in the conduct of seminars;
- 3) Establish linkages and ties with various Non-Government Agencies concerned with human trafficking;
- 4) Initiate and coordinate with the DIDM on the production of materials aimed at raising the awareness of the community as part of the PNP proactive strategy in addressing this concern;
- 5) Increase public-private partnerships to prevent trafficking;
- 6) Advocate the concept of this undertaking and in-charge with the information dissemination of all accomplishments arising thereto;
- 7) Coordinate with the WCPC when victims are women and children; and
- 8) Perform other tasks as directed.

d) TDI

- 1) Provide intelligence and counter-intelligence updates on Trafficking in Persons Activities; and
- 2) Perform other tasks as directed.

e) DHRDD

- 1) Design and conduct specialized courses on Trafficking in Persons in coordination with the DPCR and DIDM;
- 2) Formulate curricula, trainings and seminars to improve the knowledge and skills on how to handle cases on trafficking; and
- 3) Perform other tasks as directed.

f) DO

- 1) Supervise the conduct of operations, arrest of suspected traffickers and filing of charges by operating units;
- 2) Establish a system to receive complaints and calls to assist trafficked persons; and
- 3) Perform other tasks as directed.

g) DC

- 1) Provide fund support in the implementation of this LOI; and
- 2) Perform other tasks as directed.

h) DL

- 1) Provide logistical requirements to the tasked units as required; and
- 2) Perform other tasks as directed.

i) WCPC

- 1) Shall be designated as the Secretariat of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee (PNP-NATC) and serve as the focal person on Trafficking in Persons concerns;
- 2) In coordination with the DPCR, handle Trafficking in Persons cases committed against women and children;
- 3) Identify proactive measures and procedures for potential trafficking victims;
- 4) Enhance collection and compilation of law enforcement and victim assistance data;
- 5) Assist the WCPD at the Regional and Provincial Offices on Trafficking in Persons-related tasks and activities;
- 6) Develop a victim-centered approach to trafficking;
- 7) Develop and institutionalize investigative best practices on Trafficking in Persons; and
- 8) Perform other tasks as directed.

j) CIDG

- 1) Take the lead role in the conduct of case build-up, operations, arrest of suspected traffickers and filing of charges;
- 2) Establish a system to receive complaints and calls to assist trafficked persons;
- 3) Submit periodic report to the DIDM; and
- 4) Perform other tasks as directed.

k) LS

- 1) Examine and review the existing bilateral Agreement policies/TORs on Trafficking in Persons with other countries/NGOs;
- 2) Provide and assist the tasked units in the legal offensive against suspected traffickers; and
- 3) Perform other tasks as directed.

l) AVSEGROUP

- 1) Monitor the presence of trafficking activities at the airports;
- 2) In coordination with the IACAT, play the lead role in Anti-Trafficking in Persons operations in all airports;
- 3) Establish a system to receive complaints and calls to assist trafficked persons; and
- 4) Perform other tasks as directed.

m) MG

- 1) Take the lead role in the conduct of operations, arrest and investigation of suspected traffickers at the seaports and/or harbors;
- 2) Provide a system to receive complaints and calls to assist trafficked persons;
- 3) Establish close coordination with NGOs in receiving complaints, processing of victims and provide investigative assistance to trafficked victims recovered in seaports;

- 4) Conduct rescue operations of trafficked persons and investigate Trafficking in Persons activities at the seaports and/or harbors and file appropriate charges against the suspects; and
- 5) Perform other tasks as directed

n) HSS

- 1) To provide a conducive shelter for rescued victims and custodial center for suspects arrested by the CIDG;
- 2) To accept without delay suspects of Trafficking in Persons at the PNP Custodial Center; and
- 3) Perform other tasks as directed.

2) All PROs

- a) Activate Regional and Provincial Anti-Trafficking Task Groups;
- b) Develop and conduct advocacy initiatives on Anti-Trafficking in Persons;
- c) Develop partnership with local community organizations and other Civic-oriented groups having the same cause;
- d) In coordination with the CIDG, undertake anti-Trafficking in Persons operations in their respective AOR;
- e) Establish a system to receive complaints and calls to assist trafficked persons; and
- f) Perform other tasks as directed.

6. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a. Close coordination and continuous consultation with other law enforcement agencies are highly encouraged;
- b. Respect for human rights is paramount to the conduct of all operations;
- c. The provisions of the Police Operational Procedures shall be strictly observed;
- d. Rescued victims shall be turned over to the government agency concerned for their proper disposition;
- e. All investigations of Trafficking in Persons cases shall be handled by The CIDG and the PROs;
- f. RDs shall submit IMPLAN to the DIDM (Attn: C, WCPC) NLT five (5) days upon receipt of this LOI;
- g. Dirs, DPCR; DI; DHRDD; DO; DC; DL; CIDG; LS; AVSEGRP; MG; HSS and all RDs shall submit a monthly accomplishment report to the DIDM (Attn: C, WCPC) copy furnished the DPCR; and
- h. Lateral coordination is encouraged.

7. EFFECTIVITY:

This Letter of Instructions shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Annexes: Organizational Structure of PNP-NATC, RATG and PATTG

Distributions:

D-Staff
P-Staff
Dirs, NSUs
RDs, PROs

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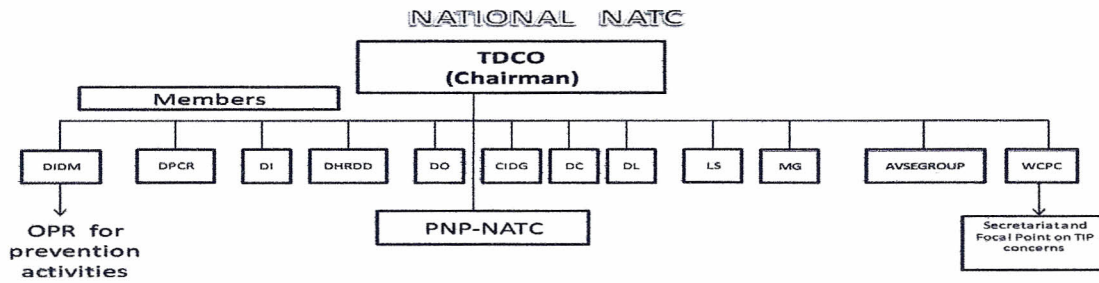
Command Group



[Signature]
NICANOR A BARTOLOME, CSEE
Police Director General
Chief, PNP

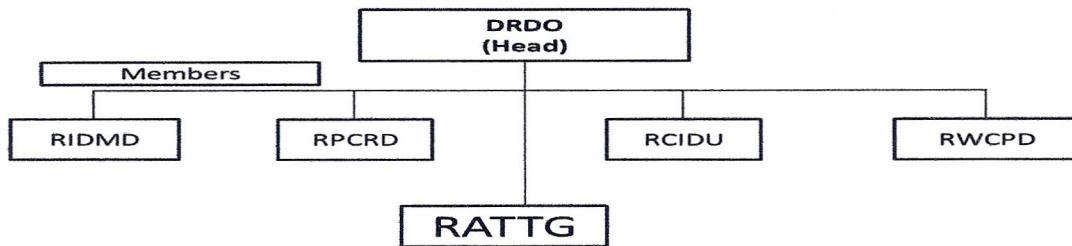


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