

## Republic of the Philippines

## Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

Bangsamoro Government Center, Governor Gutierrez Avenue, Rosary Heights VII, Cotabato City 9600

## **MEMORANDUM**

Circular No. 1 2 2 Y Series of 2023

FOR/TO: THE SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT

**HEADS OF MINISTRIES, AGENCIES, AND OFFICES**Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE PROHIBITION ON

THE RELEASE, DISBURSEMENT, OR EXPENDITURES OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES IN RELATION TO THE OCTOBER 30. 2023 SYNCHRONIZED BARANGAY AND

SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS

DATE : AUGUST 14, 2023 / Muharram 27, 1445 AH

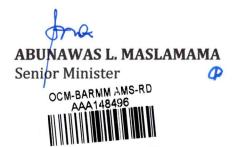
1. On May 20, 2023, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) issued **Resolution No. 10905** reiterating the prohibition on the **release**, **disbursement**, **or expenditures of public funds** in accordance with Sec. 261 (v) of the Omnibus Election Code from **October 19 to 28, 2023** (Campaign Period).

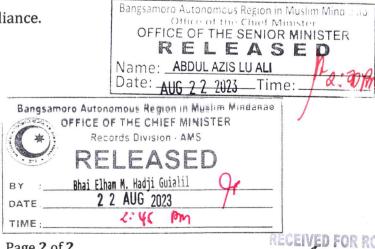
- 2. On June 7, 2023, COMELEC issued Resolution No. 10924, providing for the Rules on the Prohibition against Release, Disbursement or Expenditure of Public Funds on Social Services and Development. Sections 401 to 403 of the Resolution state that all requests for exemption from the ban must be filed through a Petition to the Commission en banc through the Office of the Clerk of the Commission not later than forty-five (45) days from the commencement of the ban on October 19, 2023. Hence, the last day of filing the same is on September 4, 2023.
- 3. On July 6, 2023, this Office issued **Memorandum Circular No. 0105, Series of 2023**, directing the Speaker of the Parliament and all respective heads of ministries, offices, or agencies within BARMM affected by the ban to submit their respective Petitions for Exemption to the Litigation Division of the Bangsamoro Attorney-General's Office not later than August 15, 2023.
- 4. However, on August 9, 2023, the COMELEC issued **Resolution No. 10944** or the "Rules and Regulations on the Prohibition against the Release, Disbursement, or Expenditures of Public Funds and Construction of Public Works, Delivery of

Materials for Public Works, and Issuance of Treasury Warrants and Similar Devices under Sections 261(V) and (W) of the Omnibus Election Code in Connection with the October 30, 2023 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections." Section 1 thereof sets the new period of prohibition for social welfare projects of national, regional, provincial, and local government units and those of government-owned or controlled corporations and their subsidiaries from September 15, 2023 to October 30, 2023.

- 5. Section 7 of the foregoing Resolution states that all requests for exemption from the prohibition against the release, disbursement, or expenditures on social services must contain the following information:
  - a. Title of social services, and developmental programs and projects:
  - b. Office/Branch/Local Government Unit requesting;
  - c. Name, Position, and authority of the Person filing the request;
  - d. Period and purpose of project implementation;
  - e. Amount of disbursement: and
  - f. Other relevant information.
- 6. Section 3 thereof provides that "[a]ll requests for exemption for projects, activities, and programs pertaining to social welfare and services shall be filed on or before September 1, 2023, from Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. excluding holidays." Sec. 10 thereof further provides that "the request for exemption in digital/scanned copy shall be submitted through email to the Law Department at law.socialservices@comelec.gov.ph. On the same day of filing through email, the hard copy of the request shall be personally filed or sent thru courier service to the Law Department."
- 7. Anent this, the provisions of Memorandum Circular No. 0105, s. 2023 relating to the public expenditure ban on social services and development are hereby modified accordingly.
- 8. The Speaker of the Parliament and all respective heads of ministries, offices, or agencies within BARMM, duly affected by the ban on public expenditure on social services and development, are directed to individually submit your respective Requests for Exemption to the Law Department of the COMELEC electronically and through personal or courier service not later than September 1, 2023.
- 9. For strict and immediate compliance.

By Authority of the Chief Minister AHOD B. EBRAHIM:





Time: 2:41 PM

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