



Announcement No. 9, s. 2021

ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR : HEADS OF CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES, DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS WITH ORIGINAL CHARTERS, AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SUBJECT : 14th World Autism Awareness Day

Pursuant to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 62/139, dated 18 December 2007, the **World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD)** will be observed worldwide on April 2, 2021. The event aims to give a voice to the millions of individuals worldwide who are undiagnosed, misunderstood and looking for help to improve their lives so that they lead full and meaningful lives as integral part of society.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. The term “spectrum” refers to the wide range of symptoms, skills and levels of impairment that people with ASD can have. It is four times more common among boys than among girls.

To promote public awareness in the observance of the event, all government agencies are encouraged to undertake the following activities:

- Hanging of 2021 WAAD official streamer in conspicuous areas within the office premises (streamer design template can be downloaded at the NCDA website, www.ncda.gov.ph); and,
- Initiate/conduct fitting activities for the celebration preferably via online means and strictly adhere to the government’s regulations and guidelines on holding public events/gatherings.

For more information, agencies may coordinate with **Mr. Rizalio R. Sanchez** and/or **Mr. Jayme J. Mariño**, National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), at telephone numbers 8951-5013 and 8932-6422 local 111.

ALICIA dela ROSA-BALA
Chairperson

16 March 2021

Bawat Kawani, Lingkod Bayani