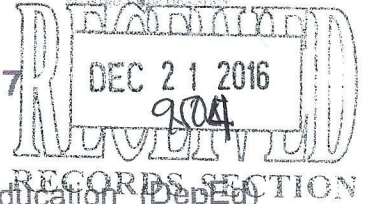


PRESS RELEASE

DepEd, Antique gear up for Palarong Pambansa 2017



PASIG CITY, *December 17, 2016* – The Department of Education (DepEd) recently formed a steering committee that will direct the course to be taken by the Province of Antique in hosting the *Palarong Pambansa* on April 23-27, 2017.

The team will oversee priority preparations of Antique as it hosts, for the first time, the annual multi-sporting event for Filipino student-athletes.

The steering committee, comprised of Undersecretary Alberto Muyot, Undersecretary Alain Del Pascua, and Assistant Secretary Tonisito Umali, will assist in enabling the provincial government achieve the necessary preparations in the conduct of competitions and the provision of secure and accessible billeting quarters, among others.

Aside from the steering committee, a memorandum of understanding is being drafted to establish the conditions being prepared by Antique.

Through the agreement, DepEd will provide guidelines in the acceptance of donations for the *Palaro*. The Department will maintain its standing policy against funds that result from activities that are essentially anti-developmental and counteractive to the principles of transparency and good governance.

Under the same agreement, the host province must be able to ensure the safety of the participants by providing adequate and conveniently located billeting quarters and facilities with sufficient water supply, uninterrupted electricity and proper ventilation; and basic medical and dental services.

The playing venues must also conform to international standards and be complete with facilities two months before the dates of Palaro.

END

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