Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region VI – Western Visayas
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

October 14, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 614, s.2026

2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Senior/Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Principals In-charge of the District
Heads of Public Elementary, Secondary, and Integrated Schools
District/School WinS Coordinators
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Memorandum OM-OUGOPS-2026 from the office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations dated October 4, 2026, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division – Nutrition and Hygiene Unit (BLSS-SHD-HNU), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will spearhead this year's celebration of **Global Handwashing Day** with its multiyear theme **"Be a Handwashing Hero!".** This global initiative is celebrated every 15th of October which aims to raise awareness about the significance of handwashing with soap as a simple yet effective means to prevent diseases and save lives.

2. In this regard, all District and School WinS Coordinators, as well as those who champion WASH across settings, are requested to participate by tuning in at the broadcast of the event on **October 15, 2026 (Thursday)** from **10:30am to 12:00nn** via the **DepEd Philippines Facebook Page.**

3. All schools are encouraged to conduct a group handwashing activity and other relevant activities for learners during their vacant time on October 15, 2026. These activities shall be documented through photographs and videos and submitted to the Schools Division Office (SDO) WinS Coordinator for documentation on or before October 16, 2026, for documentation purposes.

Poblacion, Numancia, Aklan
Tel/Fax No. (265 3740 I 265 3741 I 265 3743)
Website: http://www.depedaklan.org
Email Address: aklan.1958@deped.gov.ph

4. For further details, contact Jesmar P. Bonifacio, Nurse II of the School Health & Nutrition Section, through the Messenger account (Jesmar Patricio Bonifacio).

5. Immediate dissemination and compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

FELICIANO C. BUENAFE JR, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

Enclosure: As stated
Reference: Memorandum OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-04005
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects

PROGRAM **REPORTS** **SCHOOLS**

rmf/jpb

Republika ng Pilipinas

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-0405

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND BARMM EDUCATION MINISTER**
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOL HEADS

FROM : **JOCELYN DR ANDAYA**
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT : **2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION**

DATE : October 4, 2026

The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division – Nutrition and Hygiene Unit (BLSS-SHD-NHU), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will spearhead this year's celebration of **Global Handwashing Day** with its multi-year theme, ***"Be a Handwashing Hero."*** This global initiative is celebrated every 15th of October which aims to raise awareness about the significance of handwashing with soap as a simple yet effective means to prevent diseases and save lives.

The **DepEd Order 10, s. 2016 (DO 10, s. 2016)** or the **Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program**, aims to promote proper hygiene and sanitation practices, and advocates for creating a clean environment in and around schools, ensuring the safety and health of learners. DO 10, s. 2016 is designed to enhance learning and health outcomes while improving learners' attendance through a comprehensive, sustainable, and scalable school-based program for water, hygiene, sanitation, and deworming. This aligns with the State's mandate, as established in the 1987 Constitution, to uphold children's rights to adequate care and nutrition and to protect them from harmful conditions. Additionally, it seeks to promote public health and instill health consciousness within the community.

In this regard, all Regional, Division, and School WinS Coordinators as well as those who champion WASH across settings are requested to participate by tuning in at the broadcast of the event on **October 15, 2026 (Thursday)** from **10:30am to 12:00nn** via the **DepEd Philippines Facebook Page.**

The Regional Offices (ROs) and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are enjoined to ensure and monitor the participation of personnel and learners to the said virtual program. Refer to **Annex A** for the program details.

Further, the DepEd Regional Offices are hereby requested to:

- select and submit one (1) 3- to 4-minute video presentation of your existing handwashing jingle or WinS-related jingle (Only 2-3 regional handwashing/WinS jingle shall be chosen to be broadcasted via the DepEd Philippines FB page);
- encourage Regional Office employees and officials to submit a short commitment video to show support to this year's global theme. For details, please see **Annex B** (Guidelines for recording the requested commitment video presentation of each region);
- conduct simultaneous handwashing among learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents and other stakeholders. Schools shall designate a specific time to conduct the said activity in time for the celebration of Global Handwashing Day on October 15, 2026, ensuring that there would be no disruption of classes. If possible, the schools and/or the School Division Offices (SDOs) may broadcast the simultaneous handwashing activities in their respective Official Facebook Pages. The use of the following hashtags for this event is recommended: #2026GlobalHandwashingDay, #BeAHandwashingHero, #WASHinSchools, #ForTheWinS, #InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins; and
- cross-post the virtual broadcast of the event via DepEd Philippines FB Page.

While the 15th day of October every year is designated as the Global Handwashing Day, the public is encouraged to sustain the initiatives to achieve the objectives of the celebration throughout the year.

Kindly submit the handwashing/WinS Jingles and pledge of commitment video presentation to wins@deped.gov.ph on or before **October 9, 2026 (Friday)**.

For further details, **Ms. Magdalene Portia T. Cariaga**, Supervising Health Program Officer, **Mr. Vonerich B. Berba**, Education Program Specialist II, or **Mr. Dranoel Cyrus C. Baguio**, Technical Assistant II of BLSS-SHD, may be contacted at 8632-9935 or email at wins@deped.gov.ph or blss.shd@deped.gov.ph. Attached is the Concept Note for ready reference.

Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Annex A

"Be a Handwashing Hero!"

15 October 2026 (Thursday) at 10:30 am - 12:00 nn

(A virtual program in support of the 2026 Global Handwashing Day celebration)

Indicative Program

Time	Duration	Session/Topic	Speaker
Preliminaries and Opening Program			
10:30-10:40 a.m.	10 mins	WinS Promotional Video	Playback Video Emcee
		Opening Remarks	**Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring** Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
		Message	**Roger B. Masapol** Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations - Education Governance
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the Lens of Public School System			
10:40-11:00 a.m.	20 mins	Sustaining the Gains of the Philippine WASH in Schools (WinS) program and Updates in the Handwashing Initiatives in the Public-School Setting	**Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring** Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
Clean Hands, Safer and Healthier Learning Institutions			
11:00-11:20 a.m.	20 mins	The New WHO Global Guidelines on Hand Hygiene: What do they mean to WASH in Schools (WinS) program in the Philippines	**Mr. Jon Michael Villaseñor** UNICEF WASH Officer
Nutrition and Hygiene Unite: #FortheWinS			
11:20-11:40 a.m.	20 mins	Linking Nutrition and Hygiene for Better Health	**Ms. Elmira Bacatan** UNICEF WASH Officer
Promoting WASH Behaviors in Schools Through Engaging Jingles			
11:40-11:50 a.m.	10 mins	Presentation of WASH Jingles of Selected Schools	Emcee AVP
Closing Program			
11:50–12:00 nn	10 mins	Pledge of Commitment Closing	ALL DepEd Regions and Central Office Emcee

Annex B

Guidelines for Recording the Requested Commitment Video Presentation of Each Region

1. The video presentation to be submitted by each region should highlight their commitment to supporting this year's theme of Global Handwashing Day. Recommended spiel is as follows:

"Here at DepEd Region _____,
we are all Handwashing Heroes For-The-WinS"

2. The duration of the video presentation must be **10 seconds to 20 seconds (must not exceed 20 seconds);**

3. The following procedures are recommended when recording a video:
   a. Subject must be positioned at the center of the frame;
   b. Medium Shot (from the top of their head to roughly their waist) is recommended;
   c. Give at least an inch for the head room for the subject;
   d. Set audio recording to Stereo;
   e. Choose a good background, face the window instead and use it as a source of light;
   f. Illuminate your face using a ring light or any source of light;

4. Video format should be MP4 with 1080p or 720p resolution;

5. Recommended minimum specifications for videos:
   a. File Format: MP4
   b. Dimensions: 1920px x 1080px (16:9)
   c. Orientation: Landscape
   d. Frame Rate: 30fps

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
BUREAU OF LEARNER SUPPORT SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **JOCELYN DR ANDAYA**
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

THROUGH : **ROGER B. MASAPOL**
Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations-
Education Governance and Support Services

FROM : **DR. MIGUEL ANGELO S. MANTARING**
Director IV

SUBJECT : **COMPLETE STAFF WORK FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM IN LINE WITH THE CELEBRATION OF THE GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2026**

DATE : October 4, 2026

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The **Department of Education (DepEd)**, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), issued **DepEd Order 10, s. 2016 (DO 10, s. 2016) or the Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program** to promote correct hygiene and sanitation practices among school children and a clean environment in and around schools to keep learners safe and healthy. DO 10, s. 2016 is designed to achieve learning and health outcomes and improve school attendance of students through a comprehensive, sustainable, and scalable school-based water, hygiene, sanitation, and deworming program pursuant to the State's mandate, under the 1987 Constitution, to defend the right of children to assistance including proper care and nutrition and special protection from conditions prejudicial to their development as well as to protect and promote the people's right to health and instill health consciousness among them.

This global advocacy is celebrated annually every 15th day of October and is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding on the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.

II. LEGAL BASES/REFERENCES

1. DepEd Order No. 10, s. 2016 or the "Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program
2. DepEd Memorandum No. 194, s. 2018 Implementing Guidelines to DepEd Order No. 10, s. 2016 (Policy and Guidelines for Comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools Program)

II. OBJECTIVES

This aims to:

1. Participate in the worldwide celebration of the Global Handwashing Day 2026
2. sustain the culture of handwashing among learners and school personnel.
3. emphasize handwashing as a crucial component of infection prevention and control measures.
4. promote the importance of proper hygiene and sanitation through handwashing

III. EXPECTED OUTPUT

Signed and approved memorandum in line with the celebration of the Global Handwashing Day 2026 Celebration

IV. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

No funds were involved in the signing/approval of the said memorandum.

V. POTENTIAL BENEFIT/CHALLENGE

The approval of the aforementioned memorandum will reinforce DepEd's initiatives related to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) advocacies within the school settings.

VI. CLEAR STATEMENT OF REQUEST/RECOMMENDED ACTION

Immediate signing and approval of the 2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration memorandum is highly recommended.

□ *Approved*
□ *Disapproved*
□ *Further Comments/Remarks*

Republika ng Pilipinas

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OUGOPS No. 2026-01 - 0400

RECEIVED VIA VIBER OCT 8 3:47 PM

FOR : **ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN**
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary

PETER IRVING C. CORVERA

FROM : **JOCELYN DR ANDAYA**
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE FOR THE SIGNING AND APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM IN LINE WITH THE CELEBRATION OF THE GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2026**

DATE : October 4, 2026

This Office, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), respectfully transmits for clearance and approval the signing of the memorandum in line with the celebration of the Global Handwashing Day 2026.

In this regard, we respectfully seek the clearance and approval of the Office of the Secretary to:

- memorandum in line with the celebration of the 2026 Global Handwashing Day.
- sign and issue official correspondences such as, but not limited to, invitation letters addressed to the desired resource speakers

Should you have further questions or require additional information, you may contact the BLSS-SHD-NHU through email at wins@deped.gov.ph.

For the Undersecretary's consideration and approval.

Approved
Disapproved
Further Comments/ Remarks

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

SEP 0 9 2026

OFFICE O R D E R
OO-OSEC-2026-193

DESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOCELYN DR ANDAYA AS OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Division Chiefs
All Others Concerned

1. In view of the official foreign travel of Usec. Malcolm S. Garma, Undersecretary for Governance and Operations, and in the exigency of service, **ASec. Jocelyn DR Andaya**, Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations-Field Operations, is designated as Officer-in Charge (OIC), Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations (OUGOPS), effective October 4–11, 2026, or until the return to duty of Undersecretary Garma.

2. As OIC, **Assistant Secretary Andaya** is authorized to sign, execute, or otherwise perform the official actions pertaining to OUGOPS, in addition to her existing duties and responsibilities, without additional compensation, and shall sign official correspondence in the following manner:

JOCELYN DR ANDAYA
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

3. In relation to the abovementioned interim authority as OIC, the above personnel shall observe relevant laws, policies, rules, and regulations to ensure the legality and validity of all acts performed pursuant to this Order.

4. Unless otherwise provided, revoked, or suspended via appropriate Department issuance, this Office Order shall remain in force until the return of Undersecretary Garma.

5. Immediate dissemination of this Order is directed.

By Authority of the Secretary:

PETER IRVING C. CORVERA
Undersecretary
Office of the Secretary

DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City 1600 8633 7208/8633-7228/8632-1361 8636-4876/8637-6209 www.deped.gov.ph

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

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DOCUMENT SLIP

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Subject:	**Memo re: 2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration (Attached CSW, Clearance, and Letter to Unicef)**
Document Code:	**CO-BLSS1-2026-10-3226**
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Ashla 5:40pm 10/7/26

Paul 11:13 10-8-26

OCT 08 2026

OSEC - CWPS. Signed by USP

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