



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2012- 0261

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, SERVICES, CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, PROGRAM MANAGERS AND HEADS OF ATTACHED AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Adoption of the National Tobacco Control Strategy (NTCS) 2011-2016 and the Tobacco Control Action Plan (2011-2013)

For the Philippines to implement the WHO-FCTC, the country, under the leadership of the Department of Health, engaged all relevant sectors of government, civil society, and non-governmental organizations to take action within their social, cultural, occupational, and political networks and spheres of influence, and came up with the **National Tobacco Control Strategy (NTCS) 2011-2016 and Tobacco Control Action Plan (2011-2013)**. The NTCS reflects the government's political commitment for the complete implementation of the WHO-FCTC to protect public health from the devastating effect of tobacco use. With its vision, "**Tobacco-free Philippines: Healthier People, Communities, and Environments,**" the NTCS builds on the premise that future generations of Filipinos will be given the right to live in a protected environment and communities freed from the bondage of tobacco use and relieved from the socio-economic burden of tobacco-related diseases through well planned and well designed strategies.

Its mission is to advocate, enable, and mobilize multi-sectoral support for stronger tobacco policies and programs in line with the WHO FCTC. The two main goals of the NTCS are to attain the lowest possible prevalence of tobacco use and to attain the highest level of protection from secondhand smoke.

The NTCS 2011-2016 and the Tobacco Control Action Plan 2011-2013 shall be posted at the DOH website (www.doh.gov.ph).

For your information and guidance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

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