



DOT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR 2017-01

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRESSIVE ACCREDITATION SYSTEM (PAS)

WHEREAS, recognizing the need for internationally competitive standards of facilities and services, the Office of Tourism Standards and Regulations (OTSR) is mandated under Section 14 (a) of Republic Act No. 9593, to formulate and enforce standards for the operation and maintenance of tourism enterprises, prescribing minimum and progressive levels of operating quality and efficiency consistent with local and international standards;

WHEREAS, under Section 14 (d) of the said Act, the OTSR is charged to establish a system of registration, information, linkage and mutual assistance among accredited tourism enterprises to enhance the value of accreditation and improve the quality of service rendered by such enterprises;

WHEREAS, the OTSR recognizes that given the dynamic and evolving tourism environment and trends, it is necessary that a progressive accreditation system shall be prepared after a nationwide consultation with concerned tourism stakeholders;

WHEREAS, along with the development of progressive accreditation system, a review and refinement of the National Accommodation Standards for Hotels, Resorts and Apartment Hotels was deemed necessary to harmonize existing requirements and evolving trends;

WHEREAS, the ultimate objective of the progressive accreditation system is to ensure that the country's guests are accorded with quality facilities and services to guarantee their safe, convenient and comfortable stay and travel;

WHEREAS the continuous implementation of accreditation of tourism enterprises is essential in the quality journey of an enterprise;

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING PREMISES, pursuant to the powers vested by the Tourism Act of 2009, the DOT resolves to promulgate the following guidelines:

SECTION 1: Accreditation Guidelines and Criteria- Primary tourism enterprises, to include Accommodation Facilities, Travel and Tour Agencies, Tourist Land Transport Operators and MICE Facilities and Organizers shall be issued accreditation following the guidelines and criteria indicated in the Progressive Accreditation System;

All other tourism related enterprises/frontliners shall follow the existing Rules and Regulations Governing these enterprises.

Section 2: Transitory Provision – Routine procedures with the star rating system under the National Accommodation Standards shall resume alongside the ongoing review and refinement of the criteria and assessment guidelines to ensure that the accreditation and quality process is not unduly hampered.

Section 3: Repealing Clause – All other orders, circulars and/or rules and regulations inconsistent herewith shall be deemed amended accordingly.

Section 4: Separability Clause – In the event that any of the provisions of this Circular or parts thereof, shall be declared unconstitutional, such provision shall not affect the validity of other provisions.

Section 5: Effectivity Clause – This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately after publication in a newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Makati, Philippines.

Approved:


WANDA CORAZON T. TEO
Secretary *W*



Date: April 4, 2017