



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
Telephone Numbers 925.11.48 • 925.88.88 • 925.03.32
<http://www.dilg.gov.ph>



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2016-84

June 16, 2016

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS , ARMM REGIONAL GOVERNOR, CITY/MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND ARMM REGIONAL SECRETARY AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : COMMUNITY- BASED CRIME PREVENTION MECHANISMS TO ENSURE SAFETY OF KOREAN NATIONALS RESIDING IN THE PHILIPPINES

Migrants regardless of their status, should not be deprived of their fundamental rights such as among others, the right to access basic social services and the need to be protected from risks such as discrimination and racism. Citing an international report on crime prevention and community safety, freedom of movement, the right to citizenship, and to return or leave one's country of origin, are all rights underlined in several international conventions.¹ Safeguarding and protecting the rights of migrants are responsibility of government regardless of their status and nationality.

The Philippines is becoming the destination of the increasing number of Korean nationals. As such, concerns on integrating or assimilating the growing number of Korean migrants into the local communities are emerging. One particular concern is ensuring their safety taking into consideration cultural differences. Based on the data of the Philippine National Police (PNP), there were fifty nine (59) incidents of slain Korean nationals from 2009 to 2016.

In these 59 incidents, thirty one (31) were filed case, nineteen (19) were cold case, six (6) were case closed while three (3) are still under investigation. Of the 31 cases filed, murder is the highest crime committed followed by robbery with homicide, homicide, kidnap for ransom with homicide and lastly carnapping with homicide.

The local government units have to assume a strong role, being in the forefront in ensuring community safety, maintaining peace and order and crime prevention.


¹ Crime Prevention and Community Safety: Trends and Perspectives

In this regard, concerned Punong Barangays are hereby encouraged to provide the enabling environment, particularly in areas where a large number of Korean nationals are residing, to reduce crime incidents or atrocities against Korean nationals through the following initiatives based on a shared locally-based crime prevention approaches:

1. Ensure inclusion of Korean nationals in the Records of Barangay Inhabitants (RBI) by the Barangay Secretary as mandated in Section 394 (d) (6) of the Local Government Code and in compliance with DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2005-69 dated July 21, 2005 establishing the guidelines on the maintenance and updating of records of all inhabitants of the barangay;
2. Encourage Korean nationals in the community to organize themselves into an association adopting the culture-bound participatory approach as a venue for discussion of issues and concerns, notably on peace and public safety as a basis on crafting community-based crime prevention strategies;
3. Assist Korean nationals residing in the community in developing their own community safety plan;
4. Link the community safety plan developed by the organized Korean nationals to the safety plan or protocol of the barangay containing the local reporting or response systems, and facilitate the coordination to concerned offices/agencies in case any incident occurs; and
5. Develop a shared reporting and quick response mechanism mutually developed by the barangay with the local Korean community so that incidents and/or emergencies are immediately acted upon or referred to appropriate authorities.

All DILG Regional Directors and the ARMM Regional Secretary are enjoined to cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular to and to provide appropriate technical assistance.

For guidance and immediate compliance.


MEL SENEN S. SARMIENTO
Secretary 