

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
HEALTH AND NUTRITION CENTER
Office of the Director

August 30, 2013

MR. MICHAEL C. MENDOZA

President
Associated Labor Unions-Trade Union Congress
of the Philippines (ALU-TUCP)
National Labor Center, TUCP PGEA Compound
Elliptical Road corner Maharlika Avenue
Diliman, Quezon City

Dear Mr. Mendoza:

Greetings!

This is in response to your letter to Sec. Br. Armin Luistro dated June 18, 2013, regarding the continuous use of wire gauzes containing asbestos. A review of the Department's existing policies and consultation with Bureau of Elementary Education and Bureau of Secondary Education was conducted regarding the issue.

Cognizant to the Department of Environment and Natural resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 2 series 2000, dubbed as Chemical Control Order for Asbestos, a DepEd Memorandum will be issued to the field offices on the proper handling and disposal of wire gauze and other materials laden with asbestos and other toxic elements in the school. Procurement of wire gauze mat with ceramic center in schools will be recommended.

The Health and Nutrition Center will coordinate with the Department of Health, as well as the Department of Environment and Natural resources to strategize the appropriate steps to be done to safeguard the well-being of the learners, teachers and other school personnel.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

(Signed by) ELLA CECILIA G. NALIPONGUIT, MD, CESO
Director III
Health and Nutrition Center