



MC No. 22 s. 2010

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : HEADS OF CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES; DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT; LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS; GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS; AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SUBJECT : Implementation of RA 9242 or the Tropical Fabrics Law

On February 10, 2004, Republic Act 9242 or the "Act Prescribing the Use of the Philippine Tropical Fabrics for Uniforms of Public Officials and Employees and for Other Purposes" was signed into law.

The said law aims to instill patriotism among civil servants by making use of locally manufactured goods, specifically Philippine tropical fabrics for office uniforms and other purposes. It likewise aims to uplift the local fiber and textile industries in the country by ensuring a market for tropical fabric producers, farmers and textile millers as well as generate more income and employment for these sectors.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the law were published on June 22, 2005 in the "Pilipino Star Ngayon" and took effect on July 7, 2005.

Tropical fabrics are those containing natural fibers produced, spun, woven or knitted and finished in the Philippines. Natural fibers refer to the various fibers or filament of plant, vegetable, animal or mineral origin. The presence of abaca, banana, pineapple, and/or silk in blends with cotton and other natural and/or synthetic fibers constitutes the natural fiber component of tropical fabrics.

Section 3 of RA 9242 prescribes, among others, the use of Philippine Tropical Fabrics (PTF) for official uniforms of government officials and employees. To quote:

"SEC. 3. Usage of Philippine Tropical Fabrics. - the use of Philippine tropical fabrics is hereby prescribed for official uniforms of government officials and employees and for the purposes which require the use of fabrics in government offices and functions."

At present, only Weavers Textile Mills Inc. (Weavertex) has been identified by the Philippine Textile Research Institute – Department of Science and Technology (PTRI-DOST) as a producer of tropical fabric compliant with the requirement of RA 9242.

Agencies are encouraged to contact Weavertex through telephone numbers (02) 292-5225 / 2925252 or the PTRI-DOST at telephone numbers (02) 837-1349 for information on availability of materials and other suppliers. Should PTF be unavailable, agencies should secure a certification of unavailability of the fabric from the suppliers.

Heads of agencies are enjoined to see to it that their agency uniform committees or their Human Resource Units work towards compliance with the law and make use of the fabric for at least one set, or for a part of at least one set, of office uniform beginning 2011. They are further reminded of Rule II and Rule V of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9242 which state:

“RULE II. Implementation

All fabrics to be used for uniforms and for other purposes shall contain at least 5% by weight for either abaca, banana and pineapple and 15% by weight for silk.”

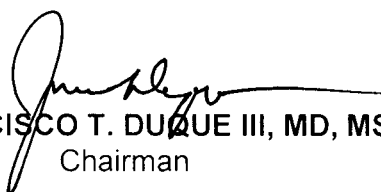
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“RULE V. Procurement Procedure

Section 1. *The procurement of Philippine tropical fabrics for the uniform of government officials and employees and for other purposes shall be from local sources. For this purpose, all procuring entities shall adopt the procurement rules, procedures and sanctions embodied in Republic Act 9184 entitled “An Act Providing for the Modernization, Standardization and Regulation of the Procurement Activities of Government and for other Purposes”, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations*

Section 2. *The supplier shall submit the required certification from PTRI to the Bidding and Awards Committee (BAC) or its equivalent unit responsible for the procurement of the uniforms and for other purposes of each agency/department.* (Underscoring Supplied)

A copy of the law and IRR may be accessed at the CSC website (www.csc.gov.ph).


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Chairman

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