



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
A. Francisco Gold Condominium II, EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**March 11, 2011**

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**NO. 2011- 35**

**TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, AND OTHERS CONCERNED, REGIONS I, II, III, IV-A, V, VIII AND XIII**

**SUBJECT : TSUNAMI ALERT IN COASTAL AREAS FRONTING THE PACIFIC OCEAN**

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Per Tsunami Bulletin No. 2 of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, as of 3:30 PM today, all residents at the coastal areas fronting the Pacific Ocean of the following provinces:

1. Batanes Group of Islands;
2. Cagayan;
3. Ilocos Norte;
4. Isabela;
5. Quezon;
6. Aurora;
7. Camarines Norte;
8. Camarines Sur;
9. Albay;
10. Catanduanes;
11. Sorsogon;
12. Northern Samar;
13. Eastern Samar;
14. Leyte;
15. Southern Leyte;
16. Surigao del Norte;
17. Surigao del Sur;
18. Davao Oriental; and
19. Davao del Sur,

are advised to be on alert for unusual waves, to stay away from the shoreline and not to go to the coast to watch the tsunami. People whose houses are very near coastal areas are strongly advised to go farther inland.

Based on tsunami wave models and early tide gauge records of the tsunami in the Pacific, the abovesaid coastal areas are expected to experience wave heights of at most 1 meter. The first tsunami waves will arrive between 5 PM to 7PM, March 11, 2011 (Philippine time) and may not always be the largest. These waves may continue for hours.

This PHILVOCS Tsunami Alert is issued after a strong distant earthquake occurred near East Coast of Honshu, Japan at 01:46 PM (Philippine Time), located at 38.0 N, 142.9 E with depth of 10 km and a preliminary magnitude of 7.9.

According to the NDRRM Advisory, an earthquake of this size has the potential to generate a destructive tsunami that can strike coastlines in the region near the epicenter within minutes to hours. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii is monitoring the sea level gauges nearest the region and will report if any tsunami wave activity is observed.

Relative thereto, all Provincial Governors, City Mayors, Municipal Mayors, and Punong Barangays in the affected areas are directed to strictly observe the Calamity Response Protocols stipulated in DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2010-79, s., August 24, 2010, specifically on the:

- Activation of all Disaster Command and Auxiliary Command Centers in the locality, and mobilization of the members of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council to man such Centers on a 24-hour basis.
- Activation of area-wide warning and alarm system, whether stationary or portable;
- Deployment of the Emergency Response, Rescue and Medical Teams, as well as evacuation and rescue equipment in staging or in assigned deployment areas;
- Activation of designated Evacuation Center (s) which include deployment of personnel and to see to it that basic and essential needs are available at the Center prior to actual evacuation; and
- Enforcement of pre-emptive, or forced evacuation of affected families, as may be necessary.

Likewise, all DILG Regional Directors concerned are directed to strictly observe the Calamity Response Protocols as contained in DILG Memorandum dated August 3, 2010, particularly on:

- Activation of the DILG Regional Disaster Information Coordinating Center on a 24-hour basis;
- Monitoring and calling the attention to compliance to the Calamity response protocols embodied in DILG MC No. 2010-79, s., 2010 of concerned Local Chief Executives;
- Liaising with the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, and the Regional Offices of the Philippine National Police and the Bureau of Fire Protection for a timely, coordinated and effective support and response to local governments-in-need; and
- Directing the sub-regional Heads of DILG Offices to coordinate with the Heads of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils in the generation of the reportorial requirements of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

In addition, all concerned Regional Directors shall provide the Secretary of Interior and Local Government, through the Director, Bureau of Local Government Supervision, with the names of personnel assigned to man the Regional Disaster Information Coordinating Center, and their contact information immediately at Telefax No. (02) 9289181.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

  
**JESSE M. ROBREDO**  
Secretary



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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
IN REPLYING, PLS CITE:  
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