



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 13 2320

RENAMING OF THE "OFFICE OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND RESEARCH (OSCR)" INTO THE "OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY (OPCD)"

SECTION 1. LEGAL BASES

The following are the legal bases of this Department Order:

1. Executive Order No. 292 or the "Administrative Code of 1987," which vests in the Secretary the power to establish the policies and standards for the operations of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of government; promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out department objectives, policies, functions, plans, programs, and projects, as well as administrative issuances, necessary for the efficient administration of the offices under the Secretary and the proper execution of the laws relative thereto;
2. Republic Act No. 7157 or the "Philippine Foreign Service Act of 1991," which authorizes the Secretary to issue rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of the Act; to review periodically all existing administrative rules and regulations with the end in view of updating such rules and regulations which may be inconsistent with the national interest, and to review and realign periodically the principal offices of the Department to effectively meet the requirements of the Foreign Service; and
3. Department Order 19-2015 or "Phase I of the Institutional Strengthening of the DFA," which provides for the implementation of Phase I of the Department's Institutional Strengthening and Productivity Improvement (ISPI) Program under the General Appropriations Act, pursuant to the letter dated 20 July 2015 issued by the Department of Budget and Management, while the Department is undergoing a continuing review of its organizational structure as part of Phase II of its ISPI Program.

SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Department Order is to rename the Office of Strategic Communications and Research (OSCR) to the Office of Public and Cultural Diplomacy (OPCD) in order to more faithfully reflect the mandate and current functions of the office, to wit, "promote the public information and cultural program of the Government abroad, develop and disseminate information, and coordinate information activities on the Government's foreign and domestic policies" (Department Order No. 14-2018). Likewise, this Department Order provides the rationale for the reassignment of the approving authority for the programming and disbursement of financial resources for cultural diplomacy from the Office of the Undersecretary for International Economic Relations (OUIER) to the Office of the Undersecretary for Strategic Communications and Research (OUSCR), the latter being the Supervising Office of the Office of Public and Cultural Diplomacy.

SECTION 3. SCOPE

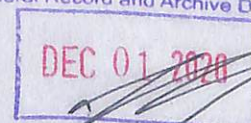
This Department Order shall apply to the Office of Strategic Communications and Research and accordingly adjust the responsibilities of the Office of the Undersecretary for International Economic Relations and the Office of the Undersecretary for Strategic Communications and Research in relation to the exercise of authority over the use of funds for cultural diplomacy.

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DENNIS G. PECSON
Signing Officer

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE

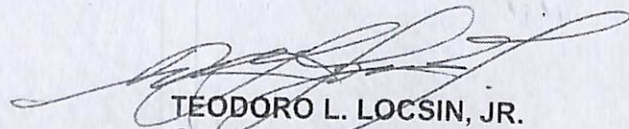
This Department Order supersedes all other Department Orders, Department Circulars, and all other internal collective instructions issued, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If any section or part of this Department Order is declared contrary to law or unconstitutional by a competent authority, the remaining sections or parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from the date of its deposit with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), University of the Philippines Law Center.


TEODORO L. LOCSIN, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

Pasay City, NOV 25 2020

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DENNIS G. PECSON
Signing Officer