

The 1<sup>st</sup> Performance Governance System-Institutionalized National Government Agency<sup>st</sup> 57 NIA Road, Government Center, Diliman, Quezon City 1100



16 March 2021

## MEMORANDUM NO. 2021-13

## TO : ALL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

## SUBJECT : CALL FOR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION TO THE "PALAMIGAN NG BAYAN" PROGRAM

A year into the COVID-19 pandemic and as the so-called 'summer' in the Philippines nears, the national government has agreed to expand what it refers to as the "Palamigan ng Bayan" to further ease the burden on the public during these trying times.

The "Palamigan ng Bayan" was launched by the Department of Transportation (DOTr), in partnership with the Philippine Ports Authority in a bid to assist local fishermen by providing them cold storage facility that will help preserve their catch and maintain their freshness before distribution and delivery to local markets and other areas.

To further sustain this undertaking, the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Department of Energy (DOE) signed a Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to strengthen and/or expand the implementation of the existing program for the agri-fishery sector in all feasible sites all over the country, and promote the use of refrigerated container vans as cold storage to address concerns on food quality and productivity.

This partnership will provide farmers and fisherfolks with reefer vans to lessen postharvest losses and increase food supply by strengthening and expanding the program in strategic areas nationwide.

Under the agreement, the DA will identify new priority areas where the reefer vans will be established in partnership with qualified farmers' and fishers' groups. The project aims to bring about better facilities and maximize the use of technology and innovation to better prepare our agricultural sector to the new normal as the demand for food and prime commodities grows.

The cooperation of other government agencies is essential to further expand and accelerate the roll-out of the project. In this regard, the NEA and ECs' active participation to this program is vital to ensure energy access for the efficient and uninterrupted operation of the facilities. Along this line, NEA enjoins the ECs' full support to this endeavor and to extend all necessary assistance to guarantee its success by committing stable electricity supply.

We look forward to your usual support and cooperation the EC way.

EDGARDO R. MASONGSONG Administrator



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