



DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
Office of the Secretary

CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION NO. 30 OF 2021

DATE: 08th of November, 2021
FILE : SEC: 1-4-12 (A)

**TO: ALL NATIONAL DEPARTMENTAL HEADS
ALL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATORS
HEADS OF OTHER PUBLIC AUTHORITIES
CEOs OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS**

**SUBJECT: OBSERVATION OF THE 20 DAYS OF HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTIVISM FROM THE 20TH OF NOVEMBER – 10TH OF
DECEMBER, 2021**

The purpose of this Circular is to inform all Departmental Heads, Provincial Administrators and Heads of Agencies of the annual '**20 Days of Human Rights Activism**' that starts on November 20th and ends on December 10th.

The 20 Days of Human Rights Activism is an annual national campaign which focuses on creating and increasing awareness on Human Rights issues in PNG and across the world which include family and sexual violence, violence against women and girls. It is also a time to celebrate the positive work of Human Rights activists across the country. The events are observed throughout the world annually to commemorate those days.

International theme is "**Orange the World: End Violence Against Women Now!**" As the world retreated inside homes due to the lockdown measures introduced to curb the COVID-19 pandemic, reports

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showed an alarming increase in the already existing pandemic of violence against women and the global UN message.

The PNG theme for 2021 is **"Unite Against Gender Based Violence and COVID 19" (One Voice, One Purpose, One Action)**. This supports the global UN message on Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the Socio-Economic impacts of COVID-19".

Accompanying the crisis has been a spike in domestic violence reporting, at exactly the time that services, including rule of law, health and shelters, are being diverted to address the pandemic as reported by the UN Secretary-General.

The goal in 2021 is to share the responsibility to address GBV and the Public Service has a leading role in promoting and recognizing the basic human rights for all citizens. Therefore, all agencies are requested to observe these important days within your agencies to conduct awareness, advocacy and to celebrate achievements.

Official Launching of the 20 Days of Human Rights Activism

The Department of Community Development and Religion (DCDR) will officially launch the 20 Days of Human Rights Activism on the 18th of November, 2021.

The launching will be witnessed by guests and representatives from respective departments, agencies, international partners and donors to celebrate these events and to honor those days.

Days of Observations.

The official dates of the 20 Days of Human Rights Activism begin from 20th November – 10th of December is scheduled hereunder:

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No.	Date of Observation of Human Rights Day	Human Rights	Goal of the Event
1.	Saturday 20 November	Universal Children's Day (Lukautim Pikiinini Act)	United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.
2.	Thursday 25 November	International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women (White Ribbon Day)	The premise of the day is to raise awareness of the fact that women around the world are subject to rape, domestic violence and other forms of violence; furthermore, one of the aims of the day is to highlight that the scale and true nature of the issue is often hidden.
3.	Monday 29 November	Defenders of Human Rights Day	November 29 th is a day of recognition for women human rights defenders, and it is a day to commemorate activism, advocacy and courageous acts of resistance. The campaign focuses on defense of rights and the impact of abuses by state and non-state actors (including family and community members).
4.	Wednesday 1	World Aids	World AIDS Day is celebrated

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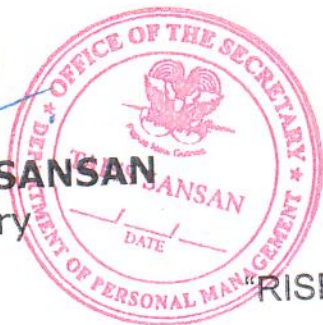
	December	Day (Red Ribbon Day)	around the world on December 1st each year. It has become one of the most recognized international health days and a key opportunity to raise awareness, commemorate those who have passed on, and celebrate victories, such as increased access to treatment and prevention services.
5.	Friday 3 December	International Day for Persons with Disability	The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.
6.	Sunday 5 December	International Volunteer Day	The International Volunteer Day (IVD) mandated by the UN General Assembly, is held each year on 5 December. It is viewed as a unique chance for volunteers and organizations to celebrate their efforts, to share their values, and to promote their work among their communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies, government authorities and the private sector.

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7.	Thursday 9 December	International Anti - Corruption Day	Corruption, is a complex social, political and economic phenomenon that affects all countries in the world. Corruption undermines democratic institutions, slows economic development and contributes to governmental instability. International Anti-Corruption Day, is to raise awareness of corruption and of the role of the Convention in combating and preventing it. The Convention entered into force in December 2005.
8.	Friday 10 December	International Human Rights Day	Human Rights Day calls on everyone to stand up for someone's rights! Disrespect for basic human rights continues to be wide-spread in all parts of the globe. It commemorates the day on which, in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Thank you for your support in advocating for human rights in the public service workplaces and let us unite to end GBV and COVID 19 in PNG.

TAIES SANSAN
Secretary



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