REITERATION OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2017-10 IN COMPLIANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10587 (ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ACT OF 2013)

Reference Number: 2018-43

Date: March 26, 2018

Rev. No. 00

## 1. Prefatory Statement

Republic Act No. 10587: Environmental Planning Act of 2013 sought to repeal Presidential Decree 1308: Law Regulating the Environmental Planning Profession in the Philippines by updating the latter in consideration of recent developments on the practice of environmental planning in the country.

Section 34 of the said Act mandated the Civil Service Commission (CSC) to create positions and set qualification standards for environmental planners at various levels in government service, among others. Same section also provided that five (5) years upon the effectivity of the Act, only registered and licensed environmental planners shall be appointed to the position of heads and assistant heads of groups, departments, divisions in government offices, agencies, or other instrumentalities thereof including provinces, cities, and municipalities.

In compliance with the said Act, the CSC issued Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 10 in 2017 which accordingly amended the Qualification Standards (QS) of the Head Local Planning and Development Coordinator Positions in LGUs. As such, it was provided that temporary appointments for said positions be allowed until June 21, 2018 in the absence of qualified eligible as certified by the appointing authority.

Same Circular also provides that those who do not possess RA 1080 (Environmental Planner) eligibility but were appointed under said positions in a permanent status prior to the effectivity of RA 10587 (March 2013) will no longer be disturbed. However, they cannot be promoted to higher environmental planning positions unless they possess the required eligibility.

#### 2. Scope/Coverage

This Circular shall cover all Provincial Governors, City and Municipal Mayors, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator (PPDC), City/Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (C/MPDC), DILG Regional, Provincial, City Directors and Field Officers, ARMM Regional Governor and all others concerned.

# 3. Policy Content and Guidelines

Cognizant of the critical role of local planners in the preparation of LGU plans that are determinants of a locality's developmental directions and progression, the need to regulate and professionalize the practice of environmental planning to effectively address planning concerns particularly at the local level is acknowledged.

In view thereof, all concerned must be guided by the provisions of RA 10587 and CSC MC 10, s. 2017 and other existing related laws and policies.

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Moreover, all governors and mayors are enjoined to encourage concerned LGU functionaries within their respective areas of responsibility to comply with the requirements prescribed in the said issuances by securing the requisite environmental planner license for the practice of their profession.

The qualification standards in CSC MC 10, s. 2017 shall be the bases of the Civil Service Commission in attesting appointments and other human resource actions for the subject positions in the local government units.

Likewise, all Regional/Provincial/City Directors are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Memorandum Circular within their respective jurisdictions.

### 4. References

- Republic Act (RA) No. 10587: Environmental Planning Act of 2013
- Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 10, s. 2017: Amendment to the QS of the Head Local Planning and Development Coordinator Positions in the Local Government Units (LGUs)

5. Approving Authority

**EDUARDO M. AÑO** ∜ Officer-In-Charge, DILG

