



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

February 16, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **191** s. 2026

**UNANG HAKBANG SA KINABUKASAN PALISTAHAN AND ACTUAL
DISTRIBUTION FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTEN AND
GRADE 1 LEARNERS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to CO-EPS No. 02-060, s. 2026 issued by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and External Partnership Service, this Office hereby informs the concerned Schools Division Offices (SDOs) of the implementation of the **Unang Hakbang sa Kinabukasan (UHSK)** Palistahan and Actual Distribution in identified geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs) within the Region.

2. The activity is a partnership initiative of GMA Kapuso Foundation, Inc. (GMAKF), aimed at providing assistance to incoming Kindergarten and Grade 1 learners through the donation of backpacks containing basic school supplies.

3. The beneficiaries of this project are from the following Schools Division Offices and municipalities:

Southern Leyte	Silago Liloan Hinunangan
Northern Samar	Biri Rosario Laoang Catarman

3. In this regard, the Schools Division Superintendents concerned are hereby requested to extend full administrative and logistical support to authorized GMAKF representatives in the conduct of the UHSK Palistahan and the actual distribution of backpacks. Such assistance shall include coordination with recipient schools, facilitation of learner listings, maintenance of order and safety during distribution, and submission of necessary documentation, in accordance with existing DepEd policies on partnerships and donations.

4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

RONEL AL K. FIRMO, CESO IV
Assistant Regional Director
Officer In-Charge
Office of the Regional Director

Enclosures: as stated

References: as stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:
PARTNERSHIPS SPPS

SPPS-EAD






Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS SERVICE



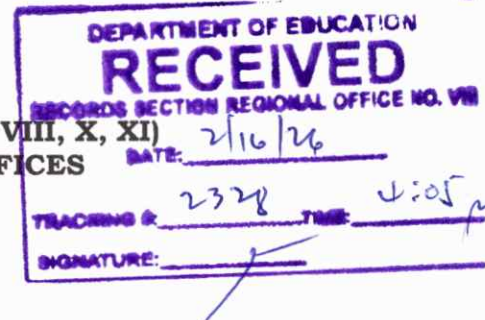
CO-EPS No. 02-060, s. 2026

FOR : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
(REGION I, II, III, IV-B, V, VI, NIR, VII, VIII, X, XI)
CONCERNED SCHOOLS DIVISIONS OFFICES

FROM : 
CILETTE LIBORO CO
Assistant Secretary
Public Affairs and External Partnerships

SUBJECT : **UNANG HAKBANG SA KINABUKASAN PALISTAHAN AND**
ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION FOR INCOMING KINDERGARTEN
AND GRADE 1 LEARNERS

DATE : 05 February 2026



The Department of Education (DepEd) recognizes the continued support of GMA Kapuso Foundation, Inc. (GMAKF) in providing assistance to incoming Kindergarten and Grade 1 learners in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas through its annual *Unang Hakbang sa Kinabukasan (UHSK)* Project.

For School Year 2026-2027, GMAKF intends to distribute approximately sixty thousand (60,000) backpacks with basic school supplies to selected public schools nationwide. The project aims to help address access and participation concerns by providing essential learning materials to learners in remote and underserved communities.

In this regard, concerned Regional Directors and Schools Division Superintendents of the pre-selected schools as listed below are hereby requested to extend appropriate assistance to GMAKF representatives in facilitating the UHSK Palistahan and actual distribution of the backpacks with school supplies to incoming Kindergarten and Grade 1 learners.

For coordination, you may contact Ms. Royce Ann Octavio of GMA Kapuso Foundation at mobile number 09088869001 and through email address RDOctavio@gmanetwork.com.

For further information, please contact the External Partnerships Service, DepEd Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, through email at external.partnerships@deped.gov.ph.

Thank you very much.



GMA KAPUSO FOUNDATION, INC.
UNANG HAKBANG SA KINABUKASAN 2026
PROPOSED AREAS

Total of 60,000 beneficiaries from incoming Kindergarten and Grade 1 learners from 22 provinces

NO.	REGION	DIVISION	MUNICIPALITIES
1	Region I	Pangasinan	Agno Anda Burgos Bani
2		La Union	San Gabriel Caba Luna Bacnotan Bauang
3	Region II	Cagayan	Calayan Island
4	Region III	Aurora	Dinalungan Dingalan Dilasag Dipaculao
5	Region IV-B	Romblon	Banton Magdiwang Cajidiocan San Fernando
6		Palawan	Aborlan Narra Roxas Taytay El Nido
7	Region V	Catanduanes	Panganiban Bagamanoc Pandan Caramoran
8		Masbate	San Fernando Batuan Baleno
9		Albay	Santo Domingo Guinobatan Ligao Oas
10	Region VI	Iloilo	San Dionisio Carles Dumangas
11	Negros Island Region (NIR)	Canlaon City	
12		Negros Occidental	La Castellana Pulupandan
13		La Carlota City	
14		Bago City	

15	Region VII	Cebu	Sogod Borbon San Remegio
16	Region VIII	Southern Leyte	Silago Liloan Hinunangan
17		Northern Samar	Biri Rosario Laoang Catarman
18	Region X	Bukidnon	Talakag Damulog Dangcagan
19	Region XI	Davao Oriental	Tarragona San Isidro Manay
20	CARAGA	Surigao del Norte	Del Carmen Bacuag General Luna Mainit
21		Dinagat Island	Tubajon Loreto Hibusong Island
22	BARMM	Maguindanao del Sur	Ampatuan Pandag Paglat