To

ALL AUTHORIZED AGENT BANKS IN THE GREATER MANILA AREA

Subject:

Acceptance of Mutilated/Doubtful Currencies by Banks from the Public in the Greater Manila Area in the Midst of Covid-19 Pandemic

In the midst of Covid-19 pandemic, the BSP reiterates for all authorized agent banks (AABs) to accept mutilated/doubtful currencies from the public for referral/transmittal to the BSP pursuant to BSP Circular 829 Series 2014. This is to facilitate the submission and the processing of the general public's holdings of mutilated peso notes/coins and doubtful Philippine/foreign currencies. To ensure expediency of BSP service, particularly on the redemption of simple case of mutilation, banks in the Greater Manila Area shall be guided by the following procedures:

1. Accept from the public any amount of mutilated Peso/doubtful currencies. Segregate currencies, if applicable, in accordance with the following classification: simple case with redemption value, simple case without redemption value and highly technical case. Please see Annex A.

**Simple case with redemption value** - mutilated peso notes and coins that are readily identifiable as to genuineness/series/denomination, can be easily segregated/counted and most importantly, have met the following requirements for redemption pursuant to Section 56 of R.A. 7653.

## Requirements for redemption:

- a) For banknotes (All items are required)
  - must be legal tender;
  - with at least sixty percent (60%) remaining surface area;
  - with at least a portion of the signature of the President of the Philippines or of the BSP Governor;
  - · with intact security thread; and
- b) For coins (one or both, but must be legal tender and without any sign of perforation/filing/clipping)
  - bent or twisted out of shape; and/or
  - defaced or considerably reduced in weight by natural abrasion/wear and tear.

Simple case without redemption value — mutilated peso notes and coins that can be easily identifiable/segregated and are found to be:

- a) Banknotes that show any of the following:
  - Less than 60% of its surface area
  - No signature
  - Sign of willful/intentional removal of Security Thread

- b) Coins with signs of filing, clipping and perforation;
- c) Demonetized notes/coins; and
- d) Specimen banknotes.

Highly Technical case — doubtful Philippine /foreign currencies and heavily damaged peso currency notes and coins whose genuineness/series/denomination and/or number of pieces cannot be readily and clearly determined/identified. Doubtful currencies are notes/coins whose genuineness/legal tender status is questionable, and in addition, in the case of foreign currencies, the exchangeability to Philippine peso.

- 2. For simple case with redemption value. Submit to the Cash Department (CD) at a maximum of two (2) bundles per bank per day for credit to the AAB's demand deposit account (DDA) with the BSP.
- 3. For highly technical case and simple case without redemption value. Submit for further analysis/examination by the Currency Issue and Integrity Office (CIIO), through CD in sealed packages/boxes. These shall be accompanied by two (2) appropriately filled out Application for Examination of Mutilated/Doubtful Currency (AEC) form, Annex B¹ (one copy to be placed inside the package/box and another copy for presentation to CD). The result of examination shall be forwarded/sent to the bank's official email address. Proceeds of claims found to have redemption value shall be credited to the claimant bank's DDA.

This shall take effect immediately.

BENJAMIN E. DIOKNO Governor

**12**\_ September 2020

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sample AEC Form of the BSP, Cash Department