POLICIES AND GUIDELINES ON THE ISSUANCE OF POSTAGE STAMPS

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Effective immediately, Administrative Order No. 89-05 dated 17 February 1989 of the former Secretary of Transportation and Communications, is hereby amended to incorporate other policies that shall be strictly observed in the determination of subjects and themes to be considered in the issuance of postage stamps.

1
Classification

Postage stamps issued shall be classified into three (3) categories as follows:

1.1 Definitive Stamps Definitive or regular stamps are for general and continuous use for all existing postal rates and shall be printed in sufficient quantities to last for a minimum of one (1) year.

1.2 Commemorative Stamps Commemorative stamps shall mark anniversaries of national and international significance. They shall be issued in limited quantities and available for philatelic sale for a period of six (6) months from the first day of sale. They shall also conform with the basic prevailing rates.

1.3 Special Stamps Special stamps shall promote, publicize, and draw attention to events and objects of national and international significance. They shall be issued in limited quantities and available for philatelic sale for a period of six (6) months from the first day of sale. They shall also conform with the basic prevailing rates.

2
Policies

The following general policies shall govern the design of stamps. These policies shall be subject to revision and amendment, in consultation with the Stamp Advisory Committee of the Philippine Postal Corporation. Final decision shall rest upon the Postmaster General.

2.1 Subjects As a general rule, subjects and themes of postage stamps shall be those likely to promote mutual understanding, to strengthen the bonds of international friendship, and to disseminate Philippine culture and history.

2.1.1 Persons No living persons shall be honored on any postage stamp, except the following:

- The President of the Republic of the Philippines

- A visiting foreign Head of State or Head of Government

- Other exceptional persons

2.1.2 Definitive Issues For regular or definitive issues, the following subjects shall be considered for issuance:

- Philippine national heroes and famous or eminent figures in Philippine history;

- Past and present Presidents;

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- National economic development activities.

- Other topical subjects

2.1.3 Commemorative Issues

2.1.3a In no case shall a commemorative stamp be considered for issue after the commemorated year.

2.1.3b Commemorative stamps of events of national or international significance shall only be considered for issuance to commemorate the anniversaries according to the following categories, among others:

1. Civic Organizations/institutions — 50th Year and every 50 years thereafter. In case of International Organizations, commemorative date shall be reckoned with only from the time it was introduced in the Philippines.

2. Provinces/Capital Cities/Commercial establishments 100th year, and every 50 years thereafter.

3. Universities/Schools 100th year and every 50 years thereafter.

2.1.3 Subjects should be coordinated with the National Historical Institute in order to determine their significance and for authentication purposes.

2.1.4 Special Issues For special issues, only the subjects such as

- The President of the Republic of the Philippines

- A visiting foreign Head of State and/or Head of Government

- Other exceptional persons

- International Congresses and/or summit meetings and the like in consultation with the Philippine Convention and Visitors Corporation.

- Other topical subjects which are popular to collectors

2.2 Issuances

2.2.1

The quantity of stamps to be printed per issue shall be in accordance with operational requirements and in consonance with the technical aspect of philately.

2.2.2

A Philatelic Bulletin shall be released by the Stamp and Philatelic Division at least two (2) weeks in advance of a new stamp issue to promote Philippine Stamps both in domestic and international markets. A replica of a stamp shall be printed thereon and cancelled.

2.3 Other Policies

2.3.1

No postage stamps, honoring individuals shall be issued earlier than five (5) years after their death except memorial issues honoring a recently deceased President of the Republic of the Philippines.

2.3.2

Yearly stamp program be prepared by the Postage Division in coordination with the Philatelic Division of the

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Philippine Postal Corporation at least twelve (12) months before the start of the new calendar year and shall be reviewed and revised, if necessary, to suit budgetary requirements when the annual budget for the printing of the stamps is approved by the proper authorities.

2.3.3

A request for a stamp issue shall be submitted to the Philippine Postal Corporation at least twelve (12) months before the start of every calendar year so that it may be considered for inclusion in the yearly stamp program.

2.3.4

The maximum denomination of each Souvenir Sheet shall not be more than double the 1st class international rate and shall fit an ordinary envelope.

2.3.5

Civic Organization/Societies shall help promote the sale of stamps.

3
Effectivity

The above policies are effective immediately and supersede any and all previous on stamp issuance.

Adopted: 15 Dec. 1993

(SGD.) EDUARDO P. PILAPIL
Postmaster General

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