# Republic of the Philippines TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

East Service Road, South Superhighway, Taguig City

#### 123rd TESDA BOARD MEETING

08 September 2020, Tuesday, 09:00 A.M. Through Online Teleconference Via Zoom Platform

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### PRIORITIZATION OF CONTACT TRACING FOR TRAINING REGULATION (TR) DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Item (B), Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7796 mandates that TESDA shall develop and establish a national system, of skills standardization, testing and certification and conduct research and development on various occupational areas in order to recommend policies, rules and regulations for effective and efficient skills standardization, testing and certification system in the country;

WHEREAS, TESDA shall focus its efforts and resources on priority qualifications/skills identified by partner-industry bodies and associations on the basis of the following:

- 1. Priority needs of the industry-sector;
- 2. Nationwide application in terms of public interest/welfare;
- 3. Employment generation and investment opportunities; and
- 4. The criteria for skills standardization and certification, to wit:
  - Requiring relatively long period of education or training;
  - Performance of the competency affecting and endangering people's lives and limbs; and
  - Competency involving the handling of complex equipment, tools and supplies.

WHEREAS, in addition to the abovementioned criteria, support for the development of skills/qualifications shall also be prioritized based on existing laws of the sector/industry governing the promotion on the competitiveness and promoting Filipino workers and the development thrusts of the government, among others;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought challenges that require public health interventions of the whole of government including the identification, assessing, and managing people who have been exposed to the disease:

WHEREAS, Contact Training is one of the essential public health tools in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic. It is defined as the identification, listing, and follow-up of persons who may have come into close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case;

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WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Diseases and the Department of Health prioritizes and advocates the need

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for comprehensive and strengthened contact tracing to mitigate the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Contact Tracing is deemed a necessary skill requirement in combatting not only the spread of the novel coronavirus strain, but other infectious diseases such as Tuberculosis and HIV-AIDS, and other emerging infectious and communicable diseases;

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor and Employment has launched the DOLE- Abot Kamay ang Pagtulong (AKAP) program which intends to provide assistance for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who were displaced from their work abroad due to the COVID-19. Further, during the 123<sup>rd</sup> TESDA Board Meeting, the DOLE manifested that displaced OFWs shall be prioritized for the conduct of training for the Contact Tracing in close collaboration with DOLE;

WHEREAS, the Contact Tracing qualification has been presented during the 38th Direction Setting Committee TESDA Board-TESDA Secretariat Consultation Meeting held last 4 September 2020;

WHEREAS, during the 38<sup>th</sup> Direction Setting Committee TESDA Board-TESDA Secretariat Consultation Meeting, the Contact Tracing Qualification has been favorably endorsed to the TESDA Board for prioritization for TR development:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the TESDA Board in its meeting today, 8 September 2020, approves the prioritization of Contact Tracing Qualification for TR development;

**BE IT RESOLVED FINALLY,** that copies of this Resolution be disseminated to all concerned offices for their information and guidance.

Adopted this 08th day of September 2020.

Atty. MARICHELLE D. DE GUZMAN
TESDA Board Secretary

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Attested by:

SEC. ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA, PhD., CSEE Designated Chairperson, TESDA Board Director General, TESDA

(Original Signed)
USEC. RENATO L. EBARLE
Department of Labor and Employment

(Original Signed)
USEC. BRENDA L. NAZARETH-MANZANO
Department of Science & Technology

(Original Signed)

MR. ISIDRO ANTONIO C. ASPER

Board Member, Labor Sector

(Original Signed)
MR. RENE LUIS M TADLE
Board Member, Labor Sector

(Original Signed)
MR. RAMON R. DE LEON
Board Member, Labor Sector

(Original Signed)

MR. ROGELIO J. CHAVEZ, JR.

Board Member, Labor Sector

(Original Signed)

DR. LEONIDA BAYANI-ORTIZ

Board Member, Employer Sector

(Original Signed)
PROF. RANDOLPH I. NONATO
Board Member, Employer Sector

(Original Signed)

MS. MARY G. NG

Board Member, Business & Investment

Sector

(Original Signed)
ARTURO M. MILAN
Board Member, Business & Investment
Sector