

ARTA launches NEHEMIA Housing Sector, aims to cut housing application process, cost, and time by 52%

19 October 2020 – The Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) is pleased to report the launch of the National Effort for Harmonization of Efficient Measures of Inter-related Agencies (NEHEMIA) Program for the Housing Sector.

Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) Secretary, Hon. Eduardo D. Del Rosario will lead the event with ARTA Director General Jeremiah Belgica that will be livestreamed at 10:00AM today at the ARTA Facebook Page. Office of the Cabinet Secretary Hon. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles and Northern Samar 1st District Representative and ARTA Sponsor, Hon. Paul R. Daza are attending as well.

The housing sector is a priority sector of the NEHEMIA program as part of the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 goal to achieve decent and affordable shelter for Filipinos. Currently, housing demand is at 3.9 million units according to the Modernizing Government Regulations (MGR) Program by the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) and the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA). The MGR Program sees this number increasing to 6.5 million by 2030. Because of this, it is recommended that in order to streamline the process, several actions must be taken including the development of a shared information system for national government agencies involved, setting up of one-stop shops for application processing, setting of standards for the evaluation process, and establishment of inter-government inspection team.

ARTA welcomes the cooperation and willingness of the agencies in the housing sector to expedite their processes through a collaborated effort for faster processing time, cheaper fees, and easier application.

“We thank our government partners for opening their doors to change. By working together, we are creating a decent and affordable home that every Filipino can own,” the ARTA czar expressed. The NEHEMIA Program is ARTA’s flagship program for inter-agency streamlining which aims to reduce the processes, requirements, and processing time by 52% for each priority sector. The whole program was formally launched last March 4, 2020, at the Premier Guest House in Malacañang through a Memorandum of Understanding as a sign of commitment between the Lead Builder Agencies and Priority Sectors.

Tomorrow, the NEHEMIA Logistics Sector will also launch. It is worth noting that last July, the NEHEMIA Common Towers and Interconnectivity Sector was completed which reduced the processing time for building telecommunication towers from 9 months to 16 days. To date, almost 1,500 permits from various local government units nationwide were expeditiously issued since the signing of the JMC for the NEHEMIA Common Towers and Interconnectivity Sector.

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