

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

## **OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

April 8, 2022 – The Department of Education was alerted to concerns over a particular portion of a DepEd Self Learning Module making references to Vice President Maria Leonor (Leni) Gerona Robredo that some observers believe may be taken against the Vice President, especially at this election period.

We have referred the matter to our Executive Committee members in charge of field operations as well as curriculum and instruction. The material was validated to have come from the Schools Division Office of Manila, which submitted its official statement on the matter (attached for reference).

Our Manila Division office provides the following information about the material, as well as actions taken:

- 1. The material was a locally produced material published in September 2020, for use as self-learning module (SLM) for SY 2020-2021, at a time when fully reviewed SLMs from the Central Office were not yet available. In addition, it did not undergo regional conformance reviews.
- 2. In light of the concerns raised, the Division Office immediately directed their school heads to retrieve hard copies of the said SLM, and the digital copy was also removed from the Learning Resource Management online portal of the Division.
- 3. The Division Office was able to identify the writer for the module; however, the Division learned that the said writer passed away in 2020.
- 4. The Division office expressed its apology for any harm that the incident may have caused to individuals or groups. It committed to strictly abide by the quality control and conformance review process set by the Department when developing and producing learning modules.

The DepEd has consistently responded to matters raised regarding our learning resources, and addressed them through corrections, withdrawal from circulation, and/or investigation of persons concerned, as deemed necessary.

DepEd assures the public as well as candidates in the ongoing elections that we are exerting all efforts to warn our officials and personnel, including teachers, against participating in partisan politics.

**END**