



Republic of the Philippines  
Supreme Court  
Office of the Court Administrator  
Manila

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 18-2021**

**TO : ALL JUDGES OF FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS**

**RE : MORATORIUM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF VIDEOCONFERENCING WITH RESPECT TO REMOTE APPEARANCE FROM ABROAD**

On 16 January 2021, the Guidelines on the Conduct of Videoconferencing (A.M. No. 20-12-01-SC, dated 9 December 2020) became effective. In view, however, of the letter dated 19 January 2021 of Secretary Teodoro L. Locsin, Jr., Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), requesting for a "moratorium in the implementation of the Guidelines until 01 April 2021," pending the DFA's formulation of its guidelines and setup for videoconference hearings, and with the approval of Chief Justice Diosdado M. Peralta, the implementation of the Guidelines on the Conduct of Videoconferencing with respect to remote appearances from abroad is hereby suspended until 1 April 2021.

For the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

1 February 2021

  
**JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ**  
Court Administrator