MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 07-2011

To : INDEPENDENT FILM PRODUCERS
    AND DISTRIBUTORS

From : THE MTRCB CHAIRPERSON

Subject : SPECIAL RATES FOR INDEPENDENT FILMS

Date : 08 September 2011

It is the declared mandate of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board ("Board" for brevity) to initiate plans and cooperate with the movie and television industry to improve, upgrade and make viable the industry as one source of fueling the national economy.

The Board recognizes the advent of Philippine Independent Cinema and the need to provide institutional support for its sustainability and economic viability. Hence, pursuant to Section 3[a] of Presidential Decree No. 1986, the Board hereby enacts and promulgates this Policy for the Special Rates for Independent Films.

To qualify as an Independent Film, the following essential requisites must all be present:

a. Budget in making the film shall be less than Three Million Pesos (Php3,000,000.00), inclusive of post production expense.
b. Director/Producer shall submit a notarized undertaking that the film is not associated or affiliated with any major film outfit.
c. Director and Producer must be Filipino citizen. If producer is a juridical person, the entity must be 100% Filipino-owned.
d. Production crew shall be composed of at least seventy-five (75%) percent Filipino citizens.
-- AND AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

e. A prior endorsement/certification from the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP), Cinemanila, Cinemalaya, Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCAA), or such other analogous institutions that the material has good cultural and artistic value or merit; or

f. The film has received a major award, or has been showcased in reputable local/international film festivals, or has been rated “A” or “B” by the Cinema Evaluation Board; or

g. The Director or the film itself has been awarded film grants by a reputable institution.

Upon the effectiveness of this Circular, a qualified Independent Film shall be assessed review fee at seventy percent (70%) off the regular rate. In addition, the material shall be given preferential review schedule and shall be accorded publicity support by the Board.

APPROVED by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, in a meeting called for the purpose, on 25 August 2011. ThisCircular takes effect immediately upon its approval.

Submitted and certified correct by:

MILO M. SOGUECO
Board Member
Chairperson, Committee on Independent Films

Noted by:

MARY GRACE POE LLAMANZARES
Chairperson

EMMANUEL H. BORLAZA
Vice Chairperson