[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 35, May 03, 2002]

DIRECTING ALL DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS, GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, STATE UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES/INSTRUMENTALITIES TO PROMOTE AND CONDUCT RELEVANT ACTIVITIES DURING THE ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF THE NATIONAL DISABILITY PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION WEEK

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 1870 was issued on June 22, 1979 declaring the third week of July as the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation (NDPR) Week to highlight the nation's efforts towards disability prevention and rehabilitation leading to the effective integration of persons with disabilities into the mainstream of society as mandated under RA 7277 otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Disabled Persons;"

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 361 was subsequently issued on August 19, 2000 resetting the dates of the annual observance of the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week which culminates on the birthdate of the sublime paralytic, Apolinario Mabini, on July 23 each year;

WHEREAS, the National Commission Concerning Disabled Persons (NCCDP) which was created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1509 dated June 11, 1978, and became National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (NCWDP) by virtue of Executive Order No. 232 dated July 22, 1987, is mandated to serve as the central authority of the government which will direct, coordinate, and integrate planning and management as well as implementation of all activities, public and private, pertaining to the welfare of persons with disabilities;

WHEREAS, it is in the national interest to stimulate public awareness on all matters and issues involving persons with disabilities and encourage every citizen to take active responsibility in uplifting their economic and social conditions as well as recognizing the abilities of our brethren with disabilities;

WHEREAS, these efforts require the re-affirmation of support by this Government in partnership with non-government organizations working for/of persons with disabilities hand-in-hand with concerned agencies, as well as the private sector through the participation of the Filipino citizenry;

WHEREAS, in celebrating the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation (NDPR) Week, there is a need to institute tangible programs to fully realize the objectives set forth in the aforecited statutes;