

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 371, October 12, 2004]

**RECONSTITUTION AND TRANSFORMATION OF THE ODA
ABSORPTION OFFICE INTO THE URBAN ASSET REFORM PROJECT
MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

WHEREAS, the government's anti-poverty program is anchored on the Social Reform Agenda;

WHEREAS, one of the elements of the Social Reform Agenda is asset reform;

WHEREAS, asset reform consists of land reform, urban asset reform, and ancestral domain reform;

WHEREAS, urban asset reform is an innovation that requires extensive research and preparatory activities of the nature of a special project;

WHEREAS, the former ODA Absorption Office created by Executive Order No. 102 has the expertise to manage projects of the complexity required by urban asset reform;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Reconstitution and Transformation. The ODA Absorption Office shall be reconstituted as the Urban Asset Reform Project Management Office and shall be headed by Undersecretary.

SECTION 2. Mandate. The Urban Asset Reform Project Management Office is mandated develop the proven ideas of the economist Hernando de Soto regarding the integration of formal and informal settlements into one legal system as the framework of Philippine urban asset reform.

SECTION 3. Composition of the Urban Reform Project Management Office. The Office of the President shall initiate the urban asset reform program through the Project Management Office. The Project Management Office shall coordinate the social acceptance and advocacy program on urban asset reform, including the sourcing of project funds from ODA. It shall build up the capability of the Presidential Commission on the Urban Poor to manage the transformation and conversion of assets in the informal sector to produce capital and the utilization of capital to increase livelihood and business opportunities for the informal sector. The Deputy Executive Secretary for Finance and Administration shall manage the administrative operations of the Office.

SECTION 4. Institutional Relationships. The Project Management Office shall be part of the Office of the President.