

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 94, April 12, 1999]

ESTABLISHING THE POLICY DIRECTION AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO IMPLEMENT LABOR-BASED EQUIPMENT SUPPORTED INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the primary strategy of the poverty alleviation agenda of the Administration is to eliminate obstacles that will prevent the poor from becoming productive and competitive members of the society;

WHEREAS, in line with this strategy, the government shall promote technologies and approaches as instruments for the economic empowerment and job creation for the poor;

WHEREAS, to mitigate the labor-displacing effects of the economic crisis, there is need to further strengthen these technologies and approaches, such as those which support labor-based equipment supported methods in infrastructure programs and projects;

WHEREAS, labor-based equipment supported methods sustain and institutionalize employment intensive approaches by encouraging optimum use of labor while ensuring cost effectiveness and quality results in the implementation of infrastructure projects;

WHEREAS, labor-based equipment supported methods also reduce reliance to importation of construction equipment and machineries;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 336, series of 1988, established labor-based units in the infrastructure agencies of the government;

WHEREAS, departments and agencies have been encouraged to maximize the use of labor intensive construction technology;

WHEREAS, there is a need under the premises to strengthen the implementation of labor-based equipment supported method through the institutionalization of more focused policy direction and operational framework that will ensure the success of this strategy in alleviating unemployment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Adoption of the Policy Direction for Labor-Based Equipment Supported (LB-ES) Infrastructure Program. It shall be the policy of the government to utilize LB-ES method in infrastructure programs and projects, including foreign-funded projects as the technology of first choice, whenever it is possible and feasible, to alleviate underemployment and unemployment, promote self-reliance and conserve foreign exchange through reduced importation of construction equipment and fuel.