

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 443, September 24, 1997]

PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED DELIVERY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AS THE NATIONAL DELIVERY MECHANISM FOR THE MINIMUM BASIC NEEDS (MBN) APPROACH

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDSS) is one of the nine flagship programs under the Social Reform Agenda, specifically aimed at empowering the disadvantaged communities to access services that will address their minimum basic needs;

WHEREAS, Administrative Order No. 194, Series of 1995 (otherwise known as the SRA Convergence Policy), clearly indicates the roles and responsibilities of all SRA major stakeholders, either as primary responsible entity or as support agency, in the delivery of services that respond to Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) indicators;

WHEREAS, the CIDSS has been implemented in 825 barangays of 275 municipalities and covering 49 provinces which resulted in the reduction of the unmet minimum basic needs by an average of fifty-seven percent (57%) within a span of two years. Likewise, it afforded the following major lessons on poverty alleviation program, validating the effectiveness and viability of the CIDSS approach:

- a. Poverty alleviation program requires a thorough social preparation of the community to ensure accelerated, effective and sustained access to basic services, some of which can be eventually managed or provided by the community;
- b. CIDSS, as a nationally-coordinated flagship program, complements local anti-poverty initiatives especially in 5th and 6th class municipalities that are usually low in resources, absorptive capacity and technical capabilities, requiring a transition mechanism prior to assuming full responsibility for anti-poverty programs;
- c. The MBN Approach is a valuable tool for focused targeting, convergence of services and evaluation of the attainment of a better quality of life for poor households and communities;
- d. Operationalizing convergence at the community level necessitates a focal agency for the installation of the MBN Approach with a network mechanism at all levels to coordinate poverty mapping; social preparation of the community; agency participation/matching of needs and programs/services for focused-targeting; and the conduct of continuing community mobilization for self-management of poverty alleviation program; and
- e. Full implementation of the MBN Approach requires a balance of entrepreneurship and social responsibility.