

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 135, November 06, 1993]

PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WELL-COORDINATED LOCAL LEVEL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the reliability, credibility, and comparability of data have significant bearing on policy and decision-making of the National Government and Local Government Units;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Statistical System (PSS) as defined in Executive Order No. 121, series of 1987, consists of a policy-making and coordinating body, a statistical research and training center, a general purpose statistical agency, and all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the national and local governments and all government-owned and controlled corporations and their subsidiaries that are engaged in statistical activities either as their primary function or as part of their administrative and regulatory functions;

WHEREAS, the coverage of the PSS cuts across all geographic subdivision in order to ensure the proper determination of the over-all picture of the country;

WHEREAS, a new Local Government Code was signed into law on October 10, 1991;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforesaid code, powers and functions for the delivery of basic services were devolved to the local government units;

WHEREAS, inherent in the devolution of basic powers and functions would be the devolution of the generation of statistics for planning and decision-making;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. A well-coordinated statistical system at the local level that is: (1) responsive to planning and monitoring requirements at the local level, and (2) capable of producing statistics which can be integrated and harmonized with statistics being produced at the national level, shall be established.

SEC. 2. Overall Coordination of Statistical Matters

(a) The National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) shall, by virtue of its mandate under EO 121, remain as the central policy-making and coordinating body on all statistical matters at the national and local levels. All statistical policies formulated by the NSCB shall be implemented by all concerned agencies of the government, including the local government units.

(b) In each Region, the Regional Statistical Coordination Committee (RSCC), which

has been created by the NSCB, shall serve as the link between the NSCB and the local government units on statistical matters. Thus, all statistical activities of the LGUs shall be planned and implemented in coordination with the RSCCs. The NSCB shall establish its Regional Statistical Coordination Units (RSCUs) in all regions to serve as the secretariat of the RSCCs.

(c) To foster an efficient statistical coordination, the RSCCs are given authority to act on statistical matters that concern only their region, province or city, municipality, and barangay. Statistical matters that are of national concern and/or may affect the other regions shall be elevated by the RSCC to the NSCB Central Office.

(d) The following statistical coordination mechanisms shall be implemented by the NSCB at the local levels. In areas where there are RSCCs already in place, the NSCB may delegate the implementation of these mechanisms to said committees. As such, all local government units are enjoined to comply.

(1 Preparation and Review of Statistical Calendar. Starting CY 1993, the provinces and cities shall submit to NSCB through the RSCCs for review and approval a Five-Year Statistical Calendar indicating what statistical activities are to be conducted, the objectives, data to be generated, and the expected time lag. The concerns of the municipalities and barangays shall be coursed through their mother provinces and municipalities, respectively. As one of the inputs in the preparation of the LGU calendars, the NSCB in coordination with major data users and producers, shall determine and provide the LGUs the types of subregional data which are and which could be made available from national statistical activities.

(2) Statistical Survey Review and Clearance System. For every statistical survey to be conducted by the LGUs, the responsible LGU shall submit, at least 90 days before the start of the scheduled field operations, the survey design and forms/questionnaires to the NSCB through the RSCCs.

The NSCB shall conduct the review of the technical aspects of the statistical survey. As a notice of approval, a clearance number shall be issued. Said number shall be printed by the LGU in the survey questionnaires. Clearance shall be renewed every two years and/or everytime changes or revisions are to be made in the survey design or questionnaire.

Review of Data Quality. The data generated by the LGUs shall be regularly reviewed by the RSCC in terms of their accuracy, consistency, and timeliness as basis of recommending statistical improvements at the local level.

3. Production of Local-level Statistics

(a) The National Statistical Office (NSO) shall remain as the general purpose statistics producing agency. It shall provide, when feasible and when budget permits, the statistics required for local-level planning at the lowest disaggregation.

(b) The generation of provincial, city, municipal, and barangay statistics, which are by-products of administrative reporting systems inherent in administering the devolved basic services, shall be continued by the Local Government Units (LGUs) consistent with the manner, form, and frequency being adopted by the concerned