

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 370, September 25, 1989]

ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM TO REFOCUS ORIENTATION FOR THE POOR (PRO-POOR) IN LOW INCOME MUNICIPALITIES (LIMs), PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF, ENJOINING THE ACTIVE SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION OF GOVERNMENT COUNCILS (RDCs), AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) THERETO AND FOR OTHER SIMILAR PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Art. II, Sec. 9 of the 1987 Constitution provides, that "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all";

WHEREAS, the 1988 Family Income and Expenditures Survey (FIES) shows that there has not been any significant improvement in the income share of the bottom 30% of the population;

WHEREAS, the government has identified poverty alleviation as a major thrust;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing, there is need to, among others, focus government action to respond immediately to the needs of the depressed communities, initially in the rural areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Program to Refocus Orientation for the Poor (PRO-POOR)*. – There is hereby established the Program to Refocus Orientation for the Poor (PRO-POOR), hereinafter referred to as the Program.

SEC. 2. *Program Objective*. – The Program shall foster and accelerate the socio-economic growth and development in Low Income Municipalities (LIMs) and improve the quality of life therein.

SEC. 3. *Program Coverage*. – (a) The Program shall target approximately four hundred fifty (450) LIMs following a phased approach covering a period of three (3) years. An initial list of municipalities shall be selected and identified on the bases of poverty-related criteria. The drawing up of the list shall be undertaken in consultation with the Local Government Executives (LGEs) and the Regional Development Council (RDC) Chairmen. New municipalities shall be added to the target LIMs in subsequent targeting activities from 1990 to 1992.

(b) The activities shall target the achievement of coordinated improvement in the