

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 167, October 19, 1999]

**ESTABLISHING THE COORDINATING CENTERS OF THE
NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION AT THE BARANGAY
LEVEL**

WHEREAS, the Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act, created the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) as a coordinating and policy oversight body (R.A. 8425);

WHEREAS, the law further provided that the NAPC monitor the implementation of the poverty eradication programs of the government, particularly those concerning the development of micro-enterprises, micro-finance technology and enhancing the capability of the poor to uplift their own conditions, their support organizations and the local government units;

WHEREAS, the government's main thrust is to eradicate poverty by providing support services to the poor and the institutions that assist them;

WHEREAS, the poor need national government support to overcome the obstacles of poverty with respect to enterprise development;

WHEREAS, the national government, through the NAPC, must establish the necessary coordinating centers for the poverty eradication program immediately, to provide the poor the necessary linkage with market information and modern scientific technology;

WHEREAS, the national government, through the NAPC, must be able to exercise its policy oversight duty by utilizing the latest available communication and information technology in order to keep the poverty eradication program on track towards the reduction of poverty incidence, especially in the rural areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the establishment of the NAPC Coordinating Centers.

Section 1. NAPC Coordinating Centers. The centers shall be established in all barangays. Each center will provide the following services to the barangay:

- a) one stop for accessing information about the poverty eradication program, particularly the projects brought under the NAPC;
- b) monitoring of the status of implementation of the poverty eradication program;
- c) learning materials for pre-grade school children of the poor;
- d) basic health information for child survival and primary health