

**[ ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 94, February 24, 2004 ]**

**PROVIDING MEASURES FOR THE OPTIMUM UTILIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES IN METRO MANILA**

WHEREAS, the inadequate rainfall in the last quarter of 2003 which affected many parts in Luzon resulted in low water levels in Angat dam;

WHEREAS, as consequence, there is a shortfall in water supply for Metro Manila and for irrigation in Bulacan and parts of Pampanga;

WHEREAS, there is a critical need to institute measures to ensure the optimum utilization of water resources and identify and immediately develop new sources of water for Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, there is a need to actively implement water conservation measures and decisively reduce the level of non-revenue water to maximize the limited supply of water;

WHEREAS, it is equally important to minimize the pollution of our water bodies to ensure water quality and safeguard public health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the law, do hereby order:

*SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.* The Government shall adopt urgent and decisive measures to address the present water shortage in Metro Manila, Bulacan and portions of Pampanga to protect the health and well being of the population and prevent or mitigate disruptions in the production sector and irrigation of agricultural crops.

*SECTION 2.* The following measures are hereby adopted to mitigate the effects of water shortages:

- a. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with the National Water Resources Board (NWRB), the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), and the Public Information Agency (PIA) shall undertake a massive information, education and communication campaign to encourage people to implement water conservation measures;