

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 41, May 12, 2021]

DIRECTING ALL AGENCIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT TO IDENTIFY SAVINGS FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE APPROPRIATIONS UNDER THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE AUGMENTATION OF DEFICIENCIES IN ITEMS OF APPROPRIATIONS THEREIN, IN VIEW OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, through Proclamation No. 1021 (s. 2020), the President extended the period of the State of Calamity throughout the country to 12 September 2021, and enjoined government agencies to render full assistance to and cooperation with each other, and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical disaster response aid and measures in a timely manner, to curtail and eliminate the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increasing cases of COVID-19 infection call for intensified government-wide response and recovery measures, including various forms of socioeconomic relief and assistance to those affected by the imposition of stricter levels of community quarantine;

WHEREAS, under Section 66, General Provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 11465, or the "Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 GAA," the President is authorized to declare and use savings to augment actual deficiencies incurred in any item of the regular appropriations of the Executive department;

WHEREAS, Section 67, General Provisions of the FY2020 GAA defines savings as the portions or balances of any released appropriations which have not been obligated as a result of (i) completion, final discontinuance or abandonment of a program, activity or project for which the appropriation is authorized; or (ii) implementation of measures resulting in improved systems and efficiencies and thus enabled an agency to meet and deliver the required or planned targets, programs and services approved therein at a lesser cost;

WHEREAS, RA No. 11520 extended the availability of appropriations under the FY2020 GAA to 31 December 2021; and

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution provides that the President has the power of control over all executive departments, bureaus and offices, and shall ensure the faithful execution of laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order: