

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 194, May 30, 1995]

**PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE SOCIAL REFORM
AGENDA CONVERGENCE POLICY AND ITS
OPERATIONALIZATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Social Reform Agenda (SRA) intends to improve access to quality basic services; accelerate asset reform and sustainable development of productive resources; and allow greater access to economic opportunities; and strengthen institution-building and participation in governance of Basic Sectors in the 19 priority provinces and other priority geographic areas, as embodied in Memorandum Order No. 213 dated June 17, 1994;

WHEREAS, during the conduct of their respective Provincial Social Reform Summits, the 19 priority provinces accepted and committed their participation in adopting the SRA as an approach to their accelerated and comprehensive development and in providing resources funding for its accomplishment and implementation;

WHEREAS, the SRA has defined convergence as the focusing and synchronization of resources, services and interventions by SRA Flagship Programs and other agencies/entities on specific target families and communities, using the Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) Approach as the strategy for convergence, and providing for multi-level, multi-sectoral and inter-agency coordination and consultation, as embodied in Proclamation No. 548;

WHEREAS, there is a need to translate SRA objectives and policies into a single, unified action plan directing all Flagship Champions, other National Government Agencies, Local Government Units and other entities, primarily to operationalize the SRA Convergence Policy, but more importantly, to provide a common direction to the government bureaucracy, thus energizing it and making it more effective in its poverty alleviation efforts in the 19 priority provinces and other priority geographic areas;

WHEREAS, specific focal points within these 19 priority provinces and other priority geographic areas have been identified as Convergence Areas, taking into consideration the respective Sector's demand for Basic Reform Commitments to address their specific needs;

WHEREAS, the successful and effective implementation of the SRA Convergence Policy will lead to a rapid and qualitative improvement in the levels of well-being of the disadvantaged sectors and communities in Convergence Areas, as well as enhance the overall national competitiveness of the country;

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