

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 283, February 17, 2004 ]**

**CREATING A MADRASAH DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 2, Section 17 and Article XIV, Section 2(4) of the Constitution, the State is mandated to encourage non-formal, informal and indigenous learning systems, as well as self-learning, independent, and out-of-school programs, particularly those that respond to community needs;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Muslim community operates indigenous and burgeoning educational institutions called madrasahs that complement the educational system of the national government;

WHEREAS, further madrasah development is hampered by resource constraints, impeding the system's realization of its potential as a viable complementary educational system for Muslim Filipinos;

WHEREAS, grants, loans, donations and other endowments from bilateral or multilateral institutions are available for madrasah development as support for the education of Muslim Filipinos;

WHEREAS, a mechanism to allow the local madrasah system to take full advantage of these development opportunities will provide more educational opportunities for Muslim Filipinos;

WHEREAS, the provision of adequate educational opportunities for Muslim Filipinos shall tremendously contribute to the sustainability of the government efforts to enhance lasting peace and equitable development in Mindanao.

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

SECTION 1. Creation of the Madrasah Development Coordinatin Committee. There is hereby created the Madrasah Development Coordinating Committee (MDCC), hereinafter referred to as the committee, which shall be responsible for the effective management of available financial assistance to the madrasah system from local, bilateral and multilateral institutions, including activities related thereto.

SECTION 2. Composition of Committee. The Committee shall be composed of the Executive Director, office on Muslim Affairs (OMA) as Chairman, the Presidential Assistant for Education (PAE) as Co-Chairman, and representatives to be designated by the President, from the Departments of Education (DepEd), and the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCo), the Technical Skills Development Authority (TESDA), as members. Two (2) representatives from the madrasah education system shall also be appointed by the President as members of the Committee.