

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 102, May 24, 1999]

REDIRECTING THE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WHEREAS , the Department of Health, hereafter referred to as DOH, has been transformed from being the sole provider of health services, to being a provider of specific health services and technical assistance provider for health, as a result of the devolution of basic services to local government units;

WHEREAS , the DOH seeks to serve as the national technical authority on health, one that will ensure the highest achievable standards of quality health care, health promotion and health protection, from which local government units, non-government organizations, other private organizations and individual members of civil society will anchor their health programs and strategies;

WHEREAS , to effectively fulfill its refocused mandate, the DOH is required to undergo changes in roles, functions, organizational processes, corporate values, skills technology and structures;

WHEREAS , Section 20, Chapter 7, Title I, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 series of 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, empowers the President of the Philippines to exercise such powers and functions as are vested in him under the law;

WHEREAS , Section 78 of the General Provisions of RA 8522, otherwise known as the General Appropriations Act of 1998, empowers the President to direct changes in organization and key positions of any department, bureau or agency;

WHEREAS , Section 80 of the same General Provisions directs heads of departments, bureaus and agencies to scale down, phase out or abolish activities no longer essential in the delivery of health services;

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 following:

SECTION 1. Mandate. Consistent with the provisions of the Administrative Code of 1987 and RA 7160 (the Local Government Code), the DOH is hereby mandated to provide assistance to local government units (LGUs), people's organization (PO) and other members of civic society in effectively implementing programs, projects and services that will:

- a) promote the health and well-being of every Filipino;
- b) prevent and control diseases among populations at risks;
- c) protect individuals, families and communities exposed to hazards and risks that could affect their health; and

d) treat, manage and rehabilitate individuals affected by disease and disability.

SEC. 2. Roles. To fulfill its responsibilities under this mandate, the DOH shall serve as the:

a) lead agency in articulating national objectives for health to guide the development of local health systems, programs and services;

b) direct service provider for specific programs that affect large segments of the population, such as tuberculosis, malaria, schistosomiasis, HIV-AIDS and other emerging infections, and micronutrient deficiencies;

c) lead agency in health emergency response services, including referral and networking systems for trauma, injuries and catastrophic events;

d) technical authority in disease control and prevention;

e) lead agency in ensuring equity, access and quality of health care services through policy formulation, standards development and regulations;

f) technical oversight agency in charge of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of health programs, projects, research, training and services;

g) administrator of selected health facilities at sub-national levels that act as referral centers for local health systems i.e. tertiary and special hospitals, reference laboratories, training centers, centers for health promotion; centers for disease control and prevention, regulatory offices among others;

h) innovator of new strategies for responding to emerging health needs;

i) advocate for health promotion and healthy life styles for the general population;

j) capacity-builder of local government units, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, people's organizations, national government agencies in implementing health programs and services through technical collaborations, logistical support, provision of grants and allocation and other partnership mechanisms;

k) lead agency in health and medical research;

l) facilitator of the development of health industrial complex in partnership with the private sector to ensure self-sufficiency in the production of biologicals, vaccines and drugs and medicines;

m) lead agency in health emergency preparedness and response;

n) protector of standards of excellence in the training and education of health care providers at all levels of the health care system; and

o) implementor of the National Health Insurance Law; providing administrative and technical leadership in health care financing.

SEC. 3. Powers and Functions. To accomplish its mandate and roles the Department shall:

a) Formulate national policies and standards for health;