

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5, July 29, 1998]

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE

WHEREAS, the National Statistics Office (NSO) has been mandated to generate general purpose statistics and implement the Civil Registry Law;

WHEREAS, the growing demand for quality statistical products and services from the National Government, local government units, non-government organizations, academe and domestic and global businesses for planning, policy formulation and day-to-day decision-making has expanded the responsibilities of NSO as reflected in the additional functions vested in the agency under various laws;

WHEREAS, the present organizational set-up of NSO has to be strengthened to enable the agency to efficiently and effectively perform its mandated functions;

WHEREAS, the intended strengthening plan for the NSO should be achieved through the decentralization of statistics generation activities, transformation of the central office units more into developmental planning and evaluation units, and increased application of information technology to NSO operations that will improve its ability to meet the rising demand for timely and relevant statistical information;

WHEREAS, under Section 20, Chapter 7, Title I, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 (Administrative Code of 1987), the President of the Philippines is empowered to exercise such powers and functions vested in him which are provided for under the laws;

WHEREAS, under Section 78 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 8522 (FY 1998 General Appropriations Act), the President may direct changes in the organization and key positions in any department, bureau or agency;

WHEREAS, Section 80 of the General Provisions of RA 8522 directs heads of departments, bureaus and agencies to scale down, phase out or abolish activities no longer essential in the delivery of public services, and provides that savings generated from the abolition, phase-out or scaling down of unnecessary activities may be used by the departments, bureaus and agencies concerned for the augmentation of their respective programs, projects and activities;

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:

SECTION 1. Strengthening of the National and Statistics Office. The NSO shall be strengthened to enhance its capability to perform its mandate as the major statistical agency for generating general purpose statistics and as implementor of the Civil Registry Law through the following shifts in the organization and operations of the agency: