

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 125, September 12, 2002]

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 125 FURTHER ENHANCING THE DEVOLUTION OF POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6734 provided for the establishment of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), and the same was ratified by the provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu and Tawi-tawi;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the province of Basilan, and the City of Marawi to the original four provinces comprising the ARMM;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the National Government to devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and RA 6734, as amended by RA 9054, as many functions and powers of national government agencies to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG); and

WHEREAS, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable and lasting peace in Mindanao.

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

SECTION 1. Devolution of Locally Funded Programs and Projects to ARMM. — Unless otherwise specifically requested by the Regional Governor of the ARMM, locally funded programs and projects presently being undertaken within the ARMM, and those programmed to be implemented in the ARMM are hereby devolved to and heretofore to be implemented by the ARG of the ARMM.

SECTION 2. Devolution of ODA Funded Programs and Projects to ARMM. — Unless otherwise specifically requested by the Regional Governor of the ARMM, Programs and Projects funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA) specifically intended only for ARMM shall be implemented by ARG. Programs and Projects funded by ODA implemented on a nation-wide basis, but with an ARMM component shall be implemented by the concerned national agency, with the ARG implementing the component within the ARMM.

On-going programs and projects in the ARMM funded by ODA and covered by loan agreements shall be devolved to and implemented by ARG, subject to re-negotiation