

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 286, December 06, 1995]

**REORGANIZING THE METROPOLITAN AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM
(MWSS) AND THE LOCAL WATER AND UTILITIES
ADMINISTRATION (LWUA) PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8041, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL WATER CRISIS
ACT OF 1995**

WHEREAS, as enunciated in Republic Act No. 8041, it is the "declared policy of the State to adopt urgent and effective measures to address the nationwide water crisis which adversely affects the health and well-being of the population, food production and industrialization process."

WHEREAS, consistent with this policy, Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8041 authorized the President to revamp and reorganize the MWSS and the LWUA;

WHEREAS, the Joint Executive-Legislative Water Crisis Commission established under the same law has, after consulting representatives of the MWSS and the LWUA, proposed a reorganizational plan for the said agencies; and

WHEREAS, the proposed reorganization is consistent with the Administration's framework for governance, having been designed to streamline and correct dysfunctions in the structure and operations of the MWSS and the LWUA to enable these agencies to become more effective, efficient and responsive to the country's needs for potable water, as well as prepare the groundwork for their eventual privatization, where feasible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, consistent with the reorganization plan proposed by the Joint Executive-Legislative Water Crisis Commission, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Framework and Objectives* — The reorganization of the MWSS and LWUA shall be undertaken in the context of the administration's framework of governance. Accordingly, the role of the national government shall be to steer rather than row. It shall to the extent possible, encourage the private sector to participate in the delivery of public goods through franchising, concession, management, privatization or other arrangements of the concerned agencies operations or facilities.

Prudence and restraint in the use of government resources shall be exercised. Efforts at streamlining and correcting dysfunctions in the operations and structures of the agencies concerned shall be undertaken to achieve more with less. The delivery of more effective, efficient and responsible public service shall be paramount.

SECTION 2. *Reorganization Plan for the MWSS* — The MWSS shall be reorganized, as follows:

2.1. Officers — The MWSS shall be headed by an Administrator who shall be its chief executive officer. He shall be assisted by two (2) Senior Deputy Administrators, one for Operations and Customers Service and another for Resource Development and Management. There shall, moreover, be four (4) Deputy Administrators, one (1) for Engineering and Construction, one (1) for Finance and Administration, and two (2) for Customers Service. The Senior Deputy Administrators and Deputy Administrators shall be appointed by the Board, upon the recommendation of the Administrator.

2.2 Organization and Management — The Administrator, with the assistance of his Senior Deputy Administrators, shall provide over-all direction and control over the operations and administration of MWSS.

a) The Office of the Administrator shall have the following services and/or departments directly under its supervision:

- i. Corporate Planning Service
- ii. Internal Audit Service
- iii. Management Information Service
- iv. System Development Department
- v. Computer Service Department
- vi. Legal Department
- vii. Public Affairs Department

b) The Office of the Senior Deputy Administrator for Operations and Customers Service shall be in charge of the operations and maintenance of the MWSS plants and other facilities, and the actual delivery of service to water users. It shall have direct supervision of the following departments:

- i. Water Production
- ii. Water Transmission and Meter Management
- iii. Sewerage

c) To ensure more effective and responsive delivery of water services and increase revenues, Customers Service shall be divided into two Districts, each District to be headed by a Deputy Administrator. Each District shall have four service areas with each Area (or department) performing the following functions, as well as such other functions that may be assigned to it consistent with the purpose of decentralizing to ensure better public service:

- i. Revenue Generation, including meter installation and reading, billing and collection

ii. Facilities Operation Maintenance and Improvement

iii. Meter Management

iv. Public Information

d) The Office of the Senior Administrator for Resource Development and Management shall have direct supervision over the Deputy Administrators for Engineering and Construction, and for Administration and Finance.

e) The Office of the Deputy Administrator for Engineering and Construction shall undertake planning and programming, monitoring, and evaluation of projects for the development and expansion of waterworks and sewerage facilities. Specifically, it shall have direct supervision over the following departments:

i. Project Planning

ii. Project Design

iii. Applied Research and Quality Control

The same Deputy Administrator shall have direct supervision over the Project Management Office, which comprises a pool of project managers, presently consisting of five (5).

f) The Office of the Deputy Administrator for Finance and Administration shall be responsible for resource management and provision of administrative support services. It shall consist of the following departments:

i. Accounting

ii. Managerial Finance and Budget

iii. Human Resource Development and Manpower Planning

iv. General Services

v. Personnel Management and Health Services

vi. Treasury

g) The Table of Organization down to department level is provided for in Annex A*.

2.3 Authority to Revise the Number of Departments — The MWSS is, subject to the approval of the President, authorized to revise the number of departments herein specified if and when the same becomes necessary by reason of a franchising, concession, privatization or other arrangements that will reduce the scope of its current operations and activities.