

**[ OP ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 261, April 07, 2009 ]**

**REITERATING GOVERNMENT BELT-TIGHTENING**

WHEREAS, in challenging economic times, the government must tighten its belt and live within its means, just like the average Filipino household;

WHEREAS, to that end, the government is taking a series of actions to stop unnecessary and wasteful spending;

WHEREAS, the taxpayers deserve no less from their government and public servants;

WHEREAS, the government must pour all savings and revenue into programs that help the poor and the middle class;

WHEREAS, government-wide, a one-and-a-half reduction of Maintenance, Overhead and Operating Expenses translates to a savings of Seven Billion Pesos (P7,000,000,000.00);

WHEREAS, an Independence Day Parade costs more or less Thirty Million Pesos (P30,000,000.00);

WHEREAS, some forty thousand (40,000) Filipino workers, notably in the export industry, have been displaced by the global economic crisis;

NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA M. ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by the power vested in me by la w, do hereby order:

*SECTION 1.* As mandated earlier this year through Executive Order No. 782, all government agencies and instrumentalities, including all departments, bureaus, attached agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations and government financial institutions, shall reduce their respective Maintenance, Overhead and Operating Expense (MOOE) budgets by one and a half percent (1.5%). Savings from MOOE shall be allocated to emergency employment for the next six (6) months.

*SECTION 2.* As mandated in early 2008, all government agencies and entities shall undertake electricity and fuel saving measures, including but not limited to the following: the consumption of fossil fuels shall be brought down by twenty-five percent (25%); electric consumption shall be reduced by at least ten percent (10%); air conditioners shall be turned off at 4:30 p.m. except those with 24-hour work; incandescent bulbs shall be replaced with Compact Flourescent Lamps; twenty percent (20%) of the vehicles of the national government, including those of the government-owned and controlled corporations, shall be converted to the use of natural gas.