



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
DECS Complex, Menalco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines



Same-Same
as DECS

Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

June 16, 2000

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 271, s. 2000

MANDATING THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT TO THE PEACE PROCESS

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau/Service and Center Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents

1. Enclosed is a copy of the Memorandum of His Excellency, the President dated May 12, 2000 on the subject "Mandating the Provision of Support to the Peace Process", including the Presidential Statement on the peace talks with the "Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawa-Pilipinas/Revolutionary Proletariat Army/Alex Boncayao Brigade" (RPM-P/RPA-ABB)", for the information and guidance of all concerned.
2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Andrew Gonzalez
ANDREW GONZALEZ, FSC
Secretary

Encl.: As stated

Reference: DECS Memorandum: No. 177, s. 2000

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

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**MALACAÑANG
MANILA**

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT

To All Cabinet Members Heads of Government
Agencies and Government-Owned-and
Controlled Corporations and Heads,
Local Government Units

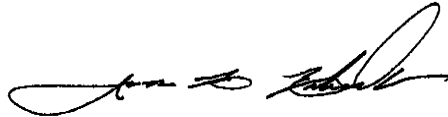
Subject **MANDATING THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT
TO THE PEACE PROCESS**

Date 12 May 2000

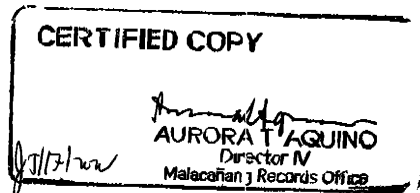
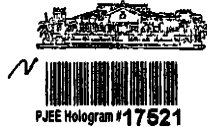
In accordance with the policy thrust of the Estrada Administration, you are hereby directed to provide full and sustained support to the government's peace efforts through the National Peace Forum, in particular the immediate identification and implementation of reforms in your respective areas of jurisdiction to alleviate poverty, create more opportunities for livelihood and employment improve local governance, enhance the quality and delivery of basic services, and promote social justice

The National Peace Forum is also hereby directed to submit to my Office, through the Executive Secretary copy furnished the Head Presidential Management Staff, a report on the status of implementation of the above reforms by the concerned government agencies and their instrumentalities including that of the GOCCs and local government units not later than 15 June 2000 and every quarter thereafter

For compliance



cc Executive Secretary
Head, Presidential Management Staff
Co Chairperson, National Peace Forum



**MALACAÑANG
MANILA**

**PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT
ON THE PEACE TALKS WITH THE RPM P/RPA ABB
12 MAY 2000**

MY ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED TO PURSUING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE WITH THE VARIOUS REBEL GROUPS DESPITE THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOME AREAS IN MINDANAO, THE DOOR REMAINS OPEN TO THOSE WHO SINCERELY WISH TO TALK PEACE AND ULTIMATELY LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AND JOIN THE MAINSTREAM OF PHILIPPINE SOCIETY

CONSISTENT WITH THIS COMMITMENT WE ESTABLISHED THE NATIONAL PEACE FORUM AFTER THE TERMINATION OF OUR FORMAL TALKS IN 1999 WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES - NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY OR THE CPP/NDF/NPA THE LOCALIZATION OF THE PEACE PROCESS AIMS TO KEEP GOING OUR PEACE EFFORTS BY DIRECTLY ADDRESSING THE CAUSES OF INSURGENCY ON THE GROUNDS

WE THEREFORE WELCOME THE DECLARATION LAST YEAR OF THE RPM P/RPA ABB OR THE "REBOLUSYONARYONG PARTIDO NG MANGGAGAWA - PILIPINAS/REVOLUTIONARY PROLETARIAT ARMY/ ALEX BONCAYAO BRIGADE" TO OPEN TALKS WITH US FOR THIS PURPOSE, I HAVE CREATED A DEDICATED PANEL HEADED BY ATTY HAYDEE YORAC TO PURSUE THE PEACE TALKS WITH THE GROUP

WE FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT PEACE IS A PRECONDITION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IT IS THUS IMPERATIVE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUOUSLY CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR PEACE TOWARDS THIS I HAVE DIRECTED ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INCLUDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO GIVE THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL PEACE FORUM THE SAME LEVEL OF SUPPORT MUST NOW BE EXTENDED TO OUR TALKS WITH THE RPM P/RPA ABB

WE HAVE ACHIEVED GAINS IN OUR PEACE EFFORTS BUT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE THESE ARE IN THE AREAS OF THE NEEDED REFORMS TO ADDRESS THE CAUSES OF INSURGENCY AND SITUATIONS OF INSTABILITY



MY ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO PURSUE REFORMS AND ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF PEACE I AM ALREADY IMPATIENT AND THE PEOPLE HAVE ALSO BECOME IMPATIENT FOR WE ARE ALL ANXIOUSLY WAITING FOR RESULTS I HAVE ONLY 1,490 DAYS LEFT AS PRESIDENT, AND I WANT LASTING PEACE TO PREVAIL IN OUR COUNTRY BEFORE I STEP DOWN

I THEREFORE ENJOIN ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INCLUDING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, TO DEMONSTRATE NOW IN CONCRETE TERMS THESE REFORMS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS OF JURISDICTION TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY, CREATE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT, IMPROVE LOCAL GOVERNANCE, ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF BASIC SERVICES, AND PROMOTE SOCIAL JUSTICE

AS WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO PURSUING PEACE AND INSTITUTING REFORMS, I APPEAL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES BRINGING ABOUT THESE REFORMS AND LASTING PEACE ON OUR COUNTRY ARE NOT ONLY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT BUT OF EVERYONE WE CANNOT ACHIEVE THESE OVERNIGHT AND SHALL REQUIRE THE SUSTAINED SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE

I WOULD LIKE ALSO TO RENEW MY APPEAL TO THE REBEL GROUPS, SPECIALLY THE RPM-P/RPA ABB FOR OPENNESS DURING OUR PEACE TALKS AND FOCUS OUR DISCUSSION ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF BRINGING ABOUT LASTING PEACE IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTIVITIES THAT MAY DISRUPT THE PEACE TALKS

NANG NAGKITA KAMI NG MGA PINUNO NG RPM P/RPA ABB NOONG NAKARAANG DISYEMBRE, INI ABOT KO ANG AKING KAMAY UPANG IPADAMA ANG AKING PAKIKI ISA SA KANILANG HANGARING TULUYAN NANG MAGHARI ANG KATAHIMIKAN AT MAIAHON ANG BAYAN SA KAHIRAPAN ANG MGA KAMAY NA INABOT KO AY HINDI LANG KAMAY NG PANGULO KUNG HINDI KAMAY NG ISANG AMA UPANG MINSAN PA AY MAYAKAP NG AMA AT LUBUSAN NANG MAKAPILING ANG MGA ANAK



I EXTEND MY HAND TO ALL THE REBEL GROUPS TO COME AND
JOIN US IN REBUILDING OUR COUNTRY INTO A MUCH BETTER
COMMUNITY FOR ALL



JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA
President of the Philippines

