



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education



FEB 13 2006

DepED MEMORANDUM


No. **61**, s. 2006

DISSEMINATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 498
(Creating the Office of the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reform)

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Schools
Chiefs of Divisions

1. For the information and guidance of all concerned, enclosed is a copy of Executive Order No. 498 dated January 26, 2006 entitled "Creating the Office of the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reform".

2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


FE A. HIDALGO
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

None

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

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

ELECTION
LEGISLATIONS
OFFICIALS

Draft by: Rhea/maricar/DM-EO No. 498
02-07-06/computer: sheila

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 498

**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE SENIOR PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON
ELECTORAL REFORMS**

WHEREAS, a credible electoral process is vital to the maintenance of a democratic state and stability of a nation;

WHEREAS, it is important to maintain the sanctity and credibility of the electoral process as well as institution(s) that is/are conferred by the Constitution with the exclusive charge of the enforcement and administration of all laws relevant to the conduct of elections for the purpose of insuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections;

WHEREAS, one of the 10-point agenda of this Administration is to automate our electoral process as one of the principal means to achieve national harmony;

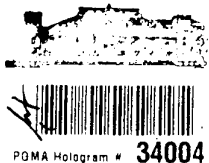
NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Creation and Mandate.* -- There is hereby created an Office of the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms, to examine the whole electoral process and system, and make the necessary recommendations to the President towards the establishment of greater efficiency, modernization and credibility of the said electoral system.

SECTION 2. *Appointment* -- Former Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. is hereby appointed as the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms. In the performance of his functions, he may enlist the assistance of various eminent persons known for their integrity and probity.

SECTION 3. *Functions* -- The Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms shall have, among others, the following functions:

- a) Whenever appropriate, in consultation with the appropriate groups, individuals and sectors involved or conversant with our electoral system, review the said electoral process and make recommendation/s thereon, indicating what may be implemented by the President, or what may be referred to the Commission on Elections, or what may be referred to Congress by way of



legislation, or what may be referred to a constituent body by way of Constitutional amendment;

- b) Assist the President in searching for worthy appointees to the institution(s) conferred by the Constitution with the charge of the enforcement and administration of laws relevant to the conduct of election; and
- c) Perform such other functions as the President may direct.

SECTION 4. Technical and Administrative Support -- The Office of the President shall provide technical and administrative support to the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms in the performance of his functions. For this purpose, the Executive Secretary is hereby authorized to detail any personnel from any government office to assist the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms.

SECTION 5. Agency Assistance --- The departments, bureaus, offices, agencies or instrumentalities including government owned or controlled corporations are hereby directed to extend such assistance and cooperation as the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms may need in the discharge of his functions.

SECTION 6. Funds -- The Office of the President shall provide the necessary funds for the operations of the Office of the Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms.

SECTION 7. Submission of Report -- The Senior Presidential Adviser on Electoral Reforms shall submit his report and recommendations to the President not later than sixty (60) days from the commencement of his work.

SECTION 8. Effectivity -- This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 26th day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and six.

Gloria Arroyo



By the President:

Eduardo R. Ermita
EDUARDO R. ERMITA
Executive Secretary

CERTIFIED COPY:

PGMA Hologram - 34005

Lamberto R. Barbin
LAMBERTO R. BARBIN
In-charge
Malacañang Records Office

11-30-06