

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

No. 16

Series of 2023

**SUBJECT : CREATION OF DSWD PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
REGIONAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICES  
(PD-RPMOs), PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UNIT (PD-PMU)  
AND WORKING GROUP (PD-WG)**

**I. Rationale**

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), through the oversight of the Office of the Undersecretary for Inclusive-Sustainable Peace and Special Concerns (OUS-ISPSC), implements social protection programs, projects and activities (PPAs) in order to address psychosocial, socio-economic, cultural, and political concerns of former members of the different armed groups, as well as to address the needs of conflict-affected and vulnerable areas. Anchored on the whole-of-nation approach, these peace and development efforts are being undertaken by the DSWD in cooperation with other government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations and other stakeholders as partners towards inclusive and sustainable peace.

In support of the government's peace efforts and in line with the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, particularly Chapter 13: Ensure and Security and Enhance the Administration of Justice, the DSWD contributes to peace and development in accordance with its mandate by implementing various peace and development programs addressing social welfare and development concerns to complement the President's peace, reconciliation and unity agenda.

To ensure the effective implementation of the different peace and development programs of the Department, a coordinating office is needed to plan and monitor all peace efforts within the DSWD, provide technical assistance to DSWD Field Offices and concerned Offices, Bureaus, and Services (OBS) at the Central Office (CO), consolidate reports at the national level, and maintain strong linkages with partner agencies on peace and development. Regional Program Management Offices (RPMOs) are also needed for effective and efficient program implementation on the ground.

This Administrative Order (AO) provides for the creation of a Peace and Development Program Management Unit (PD-PMU) and Working Group at the Central Office level and RPMOs at the field office level for smooth coordination with the PD-PMU. Creation of RPMOs, as provided for under this AO, will initially begin with DSWD Field Offices IX, X and XII, subject to expansion to other Field Offices.

## II. Legal Bases

1. **R.A. No. 9372, s. 2007, or the Human Security Act**, declares that, “The State recognizes that the fight against terrorism requires a comprehensive approach, comprising political, economic, diplomatic, military, and legal means duly taking into account the root causes of terrorism without acknowledging these as justifications for terrorist and/or criminal activities. Such measures shall include conflict management and post-conflict peace-building, addressing the roots of conflict by building state capacity and promoting equitable economic development.”
2. **R.A. No. 11188, signed 10 January 2019 “An Act Providing for the Special Protection of Children in Situations of Armed Conflict and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof”** considers as paramount the best interests of children, and treats all children involved in, affected by or displaced by armed conflict as victim-survivors.
3. **Memorandum Circular No. 83 s. 2015 from the Office of the President dated 2 September 2015** creating the National Task Force on the Disbandment of Private Armed Groups (NTF-DPAGs) in the areas of the proposed Bangsamoro and Adjacent Regions IX to XII.
4. **Executive Order No. 70, series of 2018, “Institutionalizing the Whole-of-Nation Approach in Attaining Inclusive and Sustainable Peace, Creating a National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict and Directing the Adoption of a National Peace Framework”** aims to address the root causes of insurgency to end local communist armed conflict using a whole-of-nation approach to providing assistance to former members of the Communist Terrorist Groups and to conflict affected and vulnerable areas.
5. **Office of the President Administrative Order No. 10, series of 2018, “Centralizing All Government Efforts for the Reintegration of Former Rebels and Creating for the Purpose an Inter-Agency Task Force”** enhances the Comprehensive Local Integration Program (hereinafter, “E-CLIP”), and creates Task Force *Balik-Loob* to centralize all efforts to reintegrate FRs.
6. **Executive Order No. 79, series of 2019, “Implementing the Annex on Normalization Under the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro ”** defines programs under the different components of the Normalization Program for implementation for the combatant and non-combatant elements of the MILF and families of Decommissioned Combatants.
7. **Office of the President Administrative Order No. 25, series of 2020, “Amending A.O. 10 s. 2018 on Centralizing All Government Efforts for the Reintegration of All Former Rebels and Creating for the Purpose an Inter-Agency Task Force”** expands the coverage of E-CLIP to facilitate the reintegration to civilian life of former violent extremists (FVEs) who have similarly chosen to lay down their arms and become productive and law-abiding members of society.
8. **Memorandum from the President dated 13 June 2023** designates the DSWD Secretary as the Cabinet Officer for Regional Development and Security (CORDS) for Region III.

9. **Memorandum from the President dated 19 June 2023** directs all departments, bureaus, offices, agencies or instrumentalities of the government to activate its Project Management Office or Peace and Development Office to support the implementation of the EO 70.
10. **1996 Peace Agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front** pertains to the commitments between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the MNLF, which effectively ended the MNLF rebellion against the Philippine Government.
11. **Annex on Normalization** which outlines and elaborates additional details on Normalization signed on 25 January 2014 by the Government of the Philippines and the MILF (item VIII in the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro signed on 15 October 2012), which provides for a process to ensure human security in the Bangsamoro and enable the communities to achieve their desired quality of life through the pursuit of sustainable livelihood and political participation within the peaceful and deliberative society.
12. **Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB)** signed on 27 March 2014 by the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) which provided a negotiated political settlement for the attainment of a just and lasting peace and development in the Bangsamoro.
13. **GPH-RPM-P/RPA/ABB 2000 Peace Agreement and its 2019 Clarificatory Implementing Document** dictates the commitments between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the RPM-P/RPA/ABB-TPG otherwise known as the KAPATIRAN; layout the details of the mutual obligations of both parties that need to be carried out to ensure the eventual signing of the Closure Agreement to GPH-RPM-P/RPA/ABB 2000 Peace Agreement.
14. **Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 Chapter 13: Ensure Peace and Security, and Enhance Administration of Justice** puts forward the premise that a whole-of-government approach with cross-cutting strategies is required in ensuring peace and security. It asserts that economic justice is a pillar of a strong and vibrant economy and requires a sector-based approach anchored on strong coordination among justice sector institutions, agencies, and actors to drive public engagement and trust in the justice system.

### III. Objectives

This Administrative Order is crafted to create the Peace and Development Program Management Unit, Working Group and the RPMOs, which shall streamline and harmonize the implementation of programs and activities under the ***Peace and Development “Buong Bansa Mapayapa” (PD-BBM) Program*** of the DSWD.

### IV. Scope and Coverage

The Guidelines shall cover the following:

1. For the PD-PMU and Working Group, the DSWD Central Office;
2. For the RPMOs, initial implementation shall be in DSWD Field Offices IX, X and XII;
3. The scope and coverage of this Administrative Order is subject to further expansion

to include other DSWD Field Offices after the initial implementation.

**V. Composition and Structure**

**A. DSWD Central Office Level: The PD-PMU and Working Group**

1. The **PD-PMU** is hereby established, to be composed of officials and personnel from the Office of the Undersecretary and Assistant Secretary for Inclusive-Sustainable Peace and Special Concerns. Personnel for the PD-PMU Overall Secretariat shall be detailed from existing positions in the Department. They shall perform roles and responsibilities contained in the Terms of Reference to be crafted:

<b>PD-PMU</b>	
<b>PROGRAM OVERSIGHT</b>	Undersecretary for Inclusive-Sustainable Peace and Special Concerns  Assistant Secretary for Inclusive-Sustainable Peace and Special Concerns
<b>PD-PMU OVERALL SECRETARIAT</b>	1 Program Coordinator  2 Planning Officers  10 Monitoring and Evaluation Officers  1 Administrative Officer  1 IT Officer

2. The **Peace and Development Working Group** is hereby created to be composed of officials and personnel from identified Offices, Bureaus, Services and Units (OBSUs) within the DSWD, and shall perform roles and responsibilities contained in the Terms of Reference to be crafted:

<b>WORKING GROUP</b> (based on the Five-Point Peace Agenda of the President)	
Agenda 1: Completion of <b>Peace Agreements with the MILF &amp; MNLF</b> towards healing & reconciliation in the Bangsamoro.	1. Disaster Response Management Bureau 2. Program Management Bureau 3. Financial Management Service 4. Legal Service
Agenda 2: Ending of <b>Local Communist Armed Conflict</b> by expanding the transformation programs for local conflict peace process	1. Program Management Bureau 2. Sustainable Livelihood Program- National Program Management Office 3. Policy Development and Planning Bureau 4. Standards Bureau 5. Social Technology Bureau 6. Social Welfare Institutional Development Bureau 7. Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program- National

	<p>Program Management Office</p> <p>8. Digital Marketing Service</p>
<p>Agenda 3: Completion and sustainment of the gains of the signed <b>Peace Agreements with the Rebolusyonaryong Partido ng Manggagawang Pilipino/Revolutionary Proletariat Army/Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPM-P/RPA/ABB) and the Cordillera Bodong Administration – Cordillera People’s Liberation Army (CBA-CPLA)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program Management Bureau</li> <li>2. Sustainable Livelihood Program- National Program Management Office</li> </ol>
<p>Agenda 4: Enhancement of the resilience for peace of communities and vulnerable groups through <b>Social Healing &amp; Peacebuilding</b> approaches in support of the peace process.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program Management Bureau</li> <li>2. Social Technology Bureau</li> <li>3. Social Welfare Institutional Development Bureau</li> </ol>
<p>Agenda 5: Enhancement of the delivery of <b>Conflict- Sensitive &amp; Peace-Promoting (CSPP)</b> - compliant development interventions in addressing the key drivers of conflict</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Program Management Bureau</li> <li>2. Sustainable Livelihood Program- National Program Management Office</li> <li>3. Disaster Response Management Bureau</li> <li>4. Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services- National Program Management Office</li> <li>5. Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program- National Program Management Office</li> <li>6. Policy Development and Planning Bureau</li> <li>7. Digital Marketing Service</li> <li>8. Financial Management Service</li> </ol>

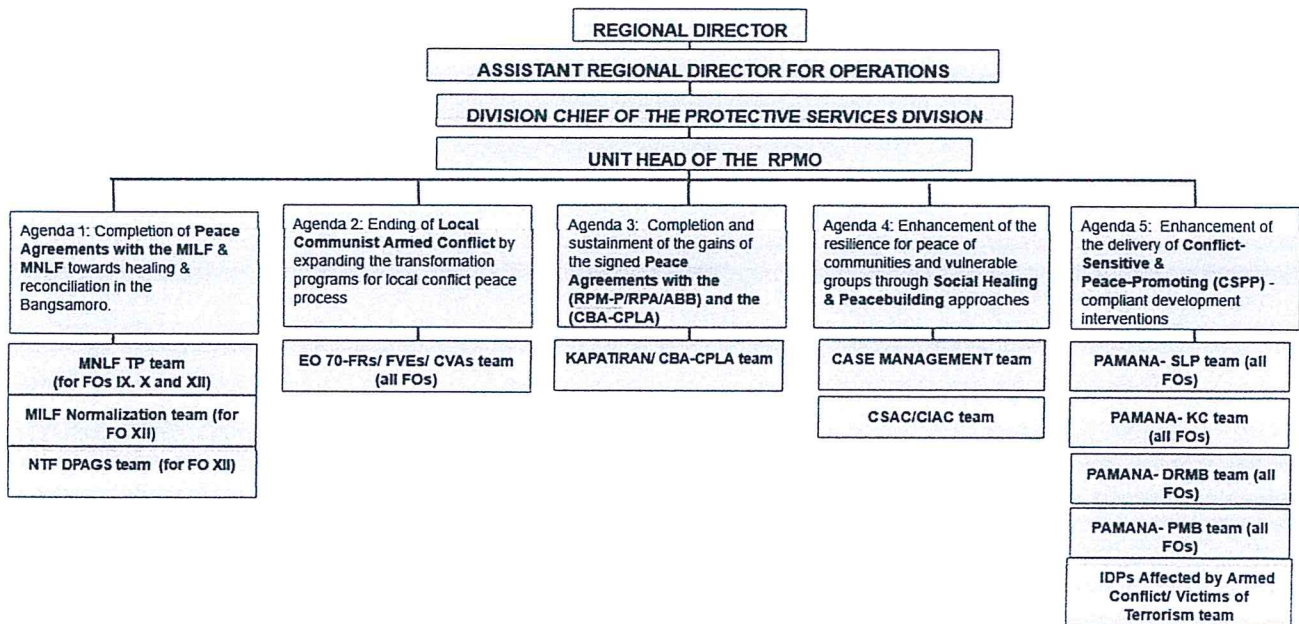
The PD Working Group shall be composed of the highest ranking official within the OBSU concerned, and/ or duly designated permanent representatives.

The concerned PD Working Group shall oversee the RPMO implementation of the peace and development program concerned and shall provide updates to the PD-PMU.

**B. DSWD Field Office Level: Peace and Development Regional Program Management Offices (PD-RPMOs)**

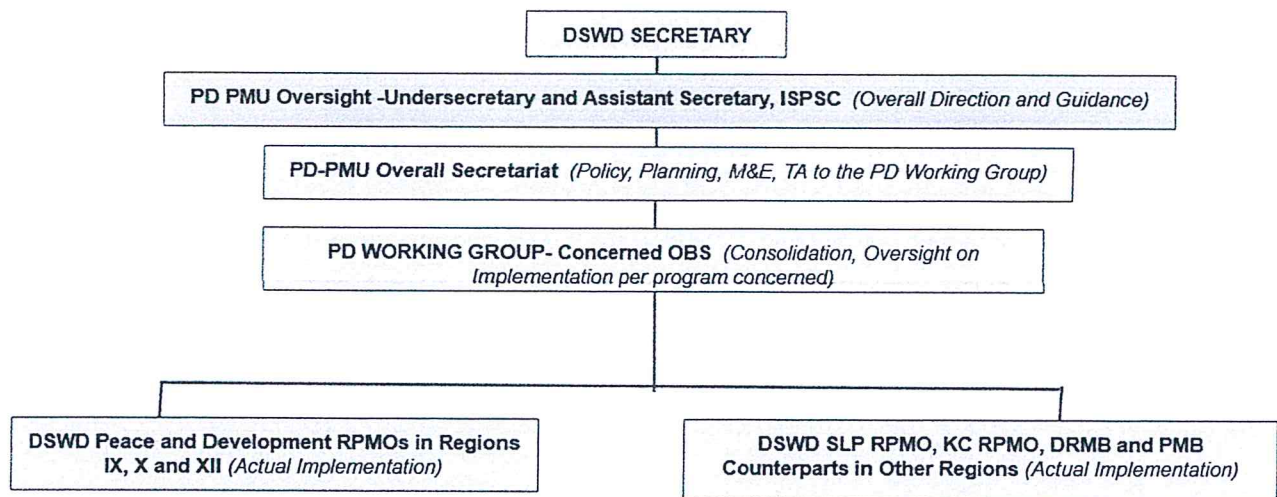
The PD-RPMOs shall implement peace and development programs and activities on the ground. A separate unit under the Protective Services Division shall be created for this

purpose, with positions for personnel to be created as needed. Details on personnel are to be included in the Manual of Operations.



### VI. Linking the PD-PMU, Working Group and RPMOs or their counterparts

The PD-PMU, Peace and Development Working Group, and the RPMOs or their counterparts are linked as illustrated below:



### VII. Reporting and Periodic Meetings

Peace and Development RPMOs shall submit reports as follows:

1. Monthly accomplishment reports on Support to EO 70 (Agenda 2), to be submitted to the concerned PD Working Group, copy furnished the PD-PMU;

2. Quarterly accomplishment reports of all activities, including utilization of funds, to be submitted to the concerned PD Working Group, copy furnished the PD-PMU

For FOs without Peace and Development RPMOs, reporting shall be submitted by the regional counterparts (i.e. SLP-RPMO, KC-RPMO, Protective Services Division) of the OBS handling the peace and development program concerned, as follows:

1. Monthly accomplishment reports on Support to EO 70 (Agenda 2), to be submitted to the concerned National Program Management Offices (i.e. SLP-NPMO and KC-NPMO) or CO Bureau counterparts (i.e. PMB and DRMB), copy furnished the PD-PMU;
2. Quarterly accomplishment reports of all activities, including utilization of funds, to be submitted to the concerned National Program Management Offices or CO Bureau counterparts, copy furnished the PD-PMU.

The PD-PMU shall consolidate reports and submit to the DSWD Policy Development and Planning Bureau counterparts and/ or concerned oversight bodies.

The PD-PMU and PD Working Groups shall convene on a quarterly basis. A semestral program implementation review with the RPMOs and focal persons from other Field Offices will also be conducted to assess progress of implementation of the Buong Bansa Mapayapa Program.

### VIII. Funding

Funds necessary for the creation and operations of the PD-PMU, PD Working Group and RPMOs as well as peace and development program implementation shall be charged to available funds of the concerned OBSUs, and to available external funds of various peace and development programs based on processes and timelines agreed upon with concerned oversight bodies, as formalized through written policies and guidelines (i.e. Memorandum of Agreement).


### IX. Effectivity

This Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Let copies of this Order be issued to the Central Office and the Field Offices for their information and guidance.

Issued in Quezon City, Metro Manila.

  
**REX GATCHALIAN**  
 Secretary  
 Date: DEC 22 2023

**Certified True Copy**  
  
**WILLIAM V. GARCIA, JR.**  
 OIC-Division Chief  
 Records and Archives Mgt. Division

28 DEC 2023