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B.P. COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS, Q.C.

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BY: hw-g

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 19  
SERIES OF 2003

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE FILIPINO FAMILY (RPAFF) FOR CY 2003 – 2005

I. RATIONALE

The family as a basic social institution, is the single and most important source of security, belongingness, emotional and economic growth of its members. It plays a crucial role in achieving national unity, development, stability and growth.

In 1993, the Philippine Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (PPAFF) 1994-2000 was formulated by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as part of the preparations for the celebration of International Year of the Family. It contains regional and national programs and activities in support of the Family. In recent years, other national plan initiatives conducted for the family include the two (2) level inter-agency consultative workshop called the Agenda for Action for the Filipino Family 2002-2004 held in Antipolo City and Bayview Hotel, Manila.

In the First National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family (NSCFF) for CY 2003 held in 15 January 2003, among the major *expected outputs* to be accomplished for the year is the formulation of the *National Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (NPAFF)*, where the DSWD is the identified lead convenor. As a result, the NPAFF 2003 – 2005 was formulated which build on the above mentioned initiatives.

The group composed of the *DSWD, Council for the Welfare of Children, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Interiors and Local Government, Commission on Higher Education, Marriage Enhancement and Team Services Foundation, Pro-Life Philippines, Family Life Institute of the Philippines, Trinity College, Iglesia ni Cristo, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints* conducted several meetings that resulted to the formulation of the *CY 2003-2005 NPAFF*.

Among the processes that the group used in coming up with the current issues/concerns and goals for the family is to identify the threats and corresponding negative effects it brought to the Filipino Family. This is presented in *Table 1*.

Further, the DSWD being the lead agency on Social Welfare and Development sector and seeing the gravity of this problems included in its thrusts and priorities for CY 2003 the activity to coordinate with concerned entity so as to formulate the NPAFF and ensure its implementation thru the installation of a monitoring and evaluation instrument.

Having finalized the NPAFF, it is necessary that this be advocated to concerned units responsible in the generation of the *Regional Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (RPAFF)*, hence this guidelines.

The RPAFF will harmonize efforts among concerned entities at the local level, particularly the LGUs, maximize and prioritize limited resources and, provide direction in the implementation of programs/services for the Filipino family.

## **II. LEGAL BASES**

### **1. 1987 Philippine Constitution**

#### Article II, Section I

The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It shall equally promote the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception.

#### Article XV, Section I

The State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation. Accordingly, it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development.

#### Article XV, Section III

The rights of families or family associations to participate in the planning and implementation of policies and programs that affect them.

### **2. The Family Code of the Philippines**

#### Article 149

The family being the foundation of the nation is a basic social institution which the public cherishes and protects. Consequently, family relations are governed by law and no customs, practice or agreement destructive of the family shall be recognized or given effect.

### **3. United Nations General Assembly Resolution 56/113 on the International Year of the Family**

Preparations for Resolution 56/113 of 19 December 2001 adopted by the UN General Assembly enjoins all member countries to prepare for and observe the Tenth Anniversary of International Year of the Family. The Philippines as a member country is undertaking concrete steps/preparations for the coming celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

### **4. The National Steering Committee for the Observance of Family Week**

Executive Order 241

This law created the National Steering Committee for the Observance of Family Week every last week of September every year. Composition of membership includes different agencies representing the different sectors such as social welfare, education, health, church, non-government organizations and peoples organization. The lead agency is the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

## **III. OBJECTIVES**

*General:* To provide over-all direction in the formulation and implementation of the Regional Plan of Action for the Filipino Family

*Specific:*

1. To create or strengthen a Regional Inter-agency Committee (RIAC) for the Filipino Family in each region
2. To come up with 16 Regional Plans of Action for the Filipino Family in response to emerging needs and concerns of the Filipino Family in each region.

## **IV. MECHANICS ON THE FORMULATION OF THE RPAFF**

**Structure.** In the meantime that a functional regional structure on family welfare is not available, the existing *Regional Sub-committee on the Welfare of Children (RSCWCs)* or its equivalent shall be utilized as the planning and reporting arm of the RPAFF implementation at the local level. Until an appropriate IAC structure for the family is established, the RSCWCs or its equivalent will be the focal point committee to provide the necessary information/report on the implementation of the RPAFF at the local level.

**Composition.** The RSCWCs or its equivalent is composed of the heads of the following:

1. Department of Social Welfare and Development
2. Department of Health
3. Department of Education
4. Department of Labor and Employment
5. Department of Agriculture
6. Department of Justice
7. Department of Interior and Local Government
8. National Economic and Development Authority
9. National Nutrition Council Secretariat
10. At least three (3) NGO representatives
11. A youth representative
12. Association of Barangay Council (ABC) Regional President
13. President of the Mayor's League

Membership of the RSCWCs or its equivalent can be modified to suit the needs and objectives of the RPAFF. The regional head of the DSWD being the lead agency in social welfare and development is suggested to be the Chairperson of the Committee although other regional heads can also be considered.

**Functions.** The RIACs on the Family shall perform the following functions:

- a) Formulate RPAFF;
- b) Create core groups or working committees if necessary to look into specific outputs of the RPAFF (based on goals or to fit the areas of concerns);
- c) Process, consolidate, analyze data/information submitted by local SWDOs;
- d) Integrate data that will generate a regional level report
  - for the plan and,
  - for the performance
- e) Submit report on the status, issues and concerns of implementation to the National Steering Committee thru the DSWD-Policy, Plans and Information Systems Bureau (PPISB);
- f) Resolve issues/concerns relative to the implementation of the plan that were elevated from the provincial, city and municipal level; and
- g) Elevate unresolved issues/concerns to the National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family at the national level thru the DSWD-Central Office.

The **Secretariat** support shall be lodged with the Office of the Chairperson.

**Frequency of Meetings.** At least quarterly meetings

## **V. AREAS OF CONCERNS**

Family Issues/Concerns identified at the National Level are indicated in the *Annex A - National Plan of Action for the Filipino Family 2003-2005*.

This is the suggested content of the plan in formulating the RPAFF, however, emerging family issues in the regional level may vary from the nationally identified issues. The following are the suggested disaggregation of the issues/concerns of the NPAFF that maybe applied in the RPAFF:

### *A. Worsening Poverty among Families, Weakening family values/structures and relationships*

1. Familial Responsibility – include concerns relative to responsible parenthood, effective parenting, marriage strengthening, family health care, community support
2. Family Values and Culture – include concerns relative to reorientation of family values; information, education and communication (IEC), strengthening of family values
3. Family and Environment – include concerns preservation of environment, prevention of criminality and domestic violence.
4. Livelihood Resources – include concerns on provision of livelihood opportunities, resources for the family
5. Needs of Tribal Communities – include concerns on the awareness of rights and access to basic services of indigeneous peoples (IPs), Muslim communities.

### *B. Absence of a mechanism to bring about concerted efforts for the family*

6. Mechanisms to Strengthen Family – includes local legislations and structures concerning the family.

It is strongly suggested that format of the RPAFF should be patterned after the format of the NPAFF. This is to facilitate easy consolidation and analysis of the RPAFF in order to generate the NPAFF.

## **VI. PLANNING AND MONITORING SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND TIMETABLE**

**Plan.** The RPAFF shall be submitted to DSWD-PPISB every 1<sup>st</sup> week of February of the planning year using the prescribed form in *Annex B*.

**Accomplishment.** The monitoring of the implementation of the Plan shall be on a quarterly basis. Submission of accomplishments using a prescribed form in *Annex C* shall be submitted to DSWD-PPISB 20 days after the reference quarter. The following is the quarterly schedule of submission:

First Quarter	April 22
Second Quarter	July 22
Third Quarter	October 21
Fourth Quarter	January 20

An annual narrative evaluation report shall be submitted the content of which will include lessons learned, successes and failures, recommendations for possible reprogramming/restructuring of programs and retargeting. Human interest stories are encouraged to give face to the report and show impact on families of interventions identified and implemented in the plan.

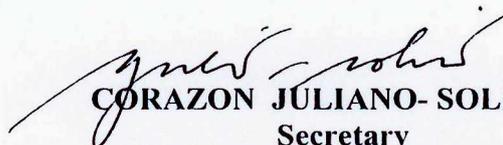
**Monitoring Visits.** A twice a year field visits to selected sample area/s (city, municipality) shall be conducted by a monitoring team that will be composed of representatives from RIACs and when necessary from the NSCFF.

**Semi-Annual Review.** A semi – annual review of the plan should be conducted, inviting some of the beneficiaries (families). Participants are IAC representatives from the national, regional, provincial and city / municipality levels.

## VII. EFFECTIVITY

This order shall take effect immediately.

Issued in Quezon City, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2003.

  
**CORAZON JULIANO-SOLIMAN**  
Secretary  
Department of Social Welfare and Development

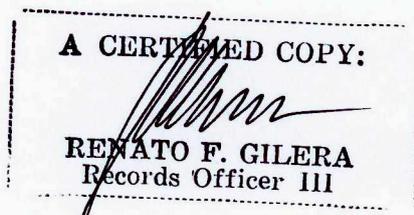


Table 1

National Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (CY 2003-2005)

*VISION: "A nation of strong and God loving families"*

Threats/Problems	Negative Effects
Peace and order problem/security	- displacement/dislocation area militarization/disintegration
Increasing substance abuse and alcoholism	- crimes, abuses, violence, unhealthy lifestyle
Globalization	- Increasing number of solo/absentee parents, outmigration/displacement
Media influence and information technology	- deteriorating values, commodification of women and children, trafficking
Religious "cultism"	- exploitation of families
Poverty	- economic and sexual exploitation, trafficking and crimes
Bad governances	- confusion of values, crime , loss of government resources, graft and corruption, lack of basic services
Rapid technology advances	- environmental degradation, pollution, unemployment unemployment (agriculture sector)
Urbanization/developmental advances	- Family violence, consumerism, dislocation, squattng, congestion, increase in man-made disasters

## National Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (CY 2003-2005)

FAMILY ISSUES/ CONCERNS	GOALS/OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES OR INTERVENTIONS	POSSIBLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	EXPECTED IMPACT/OUTCOME
<p>A. Worsening poverty among families due to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of productive skills</li> <li>- Lack of resources and opportunities</li> <li>- Limited / absence of access to basic service</li> <li>- Weakening family values / structures and relationships</li> <li>- Increasing number of families in difficult situation, victims of conflict / disaster / squatters / IPs/ Muslims</li> <li>- Increasing number of solo/ absentee parents, outmigration/displacement due to globalization</li> </ul>	<p>1) To improve the socio-economic condition of families at poverty level thru increased</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- access to economic resources</li> <li>- access to basic services</li> </ul> <p>2) To build strong and responsible families that nurture and enhance development of its members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening family roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>	<p>Livelihood program</p> <p>Networking, advocacy program, community organization</p> <p>Family life enrichment services</p> <p>Enhanced Integrated</p>	<p>No. of Families provided with microfinance</p> <p>No. of Families with members provided trainings</p> <p>No. of Families with members job placed</p> <p>No. of Families with mobilized saving</p> <p>No. and type of microfinance</p> <p>No. and type of skills training conducted (individual, group family cooperatives)</p> <p>No. of referrals and placements</p> <p>No. of cooperatives organized</p> <p>No. &amp; type of savings program operationalized</p> <p>No. of savings organizations/ group organized</p> <p>No. of families recipients of basic services</p> <p>No. of networkings</p> <p>No. of advocacy programs</p> <p>No. of families/community organized</p> <p>No. of Family Life Enrichment conducted</p> <p>No. of Parents Education</p>		<p>____% of poor families uplifted from the poverty level</p> <p>____% increase in families that have access to basic services</p> <p>____% of LGUs/NGOs adopting / replicating the new / enhanced / programs addressing the needs of the family</p> <p>____% increase in participation of families in civic, religious, activities in the community</p> <p>____% reduction on marital separation</p> <p>____% reduction of family disintegration</p>

FAMILY ISSUES/ CONCERNS	GOALS/OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES OR INTERVENTIONS	POSSIBLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	EXPECTED IMPACT/OUTCOME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening family values / attitudes</li> <li>- Develop / enhance/ implement responsive program for family</li> </ul>	program for family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conducted</li> <li>No. of Parents' groups organized / mobilized</li> <li>No. of Marriage &amp; Family Counseling conducted</li> <li>No. of Pre-marriage counseling conducted</li> <li>No. of spouses of OFWs trained</li> <li>No. and type of program provided to solo parents</li> <li>No. of solo parent beneficiaries</li> <li>No. of Family member beneficiaries</li> <li>No. of values formation training conducted</li> <li>No. of values formation activities conducted</li> <li>No. of beneficiaries               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- parents</li> <li>- family members</li> </ul> </li> <li>No. of programs pilot tested / developed</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>___% reduction in domestic violence</li> <li>___% reduction in out-of-school youth and school drop-outs</li> <li>___% reduction in teen-age pregnancies</li> </ul>
B. Absence / limited ineffective policies / laws to promote welfare of families	3) To advocate for laws / policies that are family friendly	Advocacy fora IEC campaign Lobbying for family friendly legislations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No. of advocacy fora</li> <li>No. of IEC activities</li> <li>No. of IEC materials produced/disseminated</li> </ul>		___% of LGUs implementing policies/laws promoting the welfare of the families
C. Absence of a mechanism to bring about concerted efforts for the family	4) To strengthen mechanisms of the national and local bodies for coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of policies, plans and programs/ projects for the Filipino Family	Interagency Coordination / Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family</li> <li>National Council for the Filipino Family upon the approval of its Executive Order</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operational National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family</li> <li>Operational National Council for the Filipino Family</li> </ul>

FAMILY ISSUES/ CONCERNS	GOALS/OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES OR INTERVENTIONS	POSSIBLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	EXPECTED IMPACT/OUTCOME
D. Need to define a Family Friendly Community	5) To develop communities that promotes the rights and welfare of Filipino families  6) To identify indicators of a family-friendly community	Pilot testing of family friendly community	No. of Community/ies pilot tested		Family friendly environment

f://users/clagasca/family/2003/NPAFFGOALSrev.xls(as of 23 April 2003)

**Regional Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (CY 2003-2005)**  
**Planning Form**

Region: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Printed Name and Signature)  
 Designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Printed Name and Signature)  
 Designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY ISSUES/ CONCERNS	GOALS/OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES OR INTERVENTIONS/ ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT INDICATORS	TARGETS						RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	EXPEC1 IMPACT/OU
				2003		2004		2005			
				PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL	PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL	PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL		

**Regional Plan of Action for the Filipino Family (CY 2003-2005)**  
 Monitoring Form  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter, CY \_\_\_\_\_

Region: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Printed Name and Signature)  
 Designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Printed Name and Signature)  
 Designation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY ISSUES/ CONCERNS	GOALS/OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES OR INTERVENTIONS/ ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT INDICATORS	PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT			FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT			RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES	EXPECTED IMPACT/OUTCOME
				CY PLAN	QTR ACTUAL	% ACCOMPLISHED	CY PLAN	QTR ACTUAL	% ACCOMPLISHED		