MALACAÑAN PALACE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 203

PRIORITIZING THE PROVISION OF JOBS, LIVELIHOOD AND BASIC SERVICES TO BRING DOWN THE RATE OF EXTREME POVERTY

I, GLORIA M. ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by the powers vested in me by law do hereby order:

Section 1. The China Projects Oversight Panel shall earmark \$120 million for programs and projects drawn up by local government units and agencies to uplift areas and communities suffering extreme poverty, as identified by the National Anti-Poverty Commission in consultation with the bishops and the Non Government Organizations. Top priority are local government units with a high incidence of severe hunger and/or high unemployment. The projects shall be proposed by year's end for 2008 launching.

Section 2. The Cabinet shall already undertake preparatory work on programs and projects in 2008 as approved by the House of Representatives, to ensure speedy implementation next year. Upon consultation with Senators, agencies may also publicize those undertakings likely to be passed by the Senate without major revisions. The aim is to earmark about Five Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000.00) worth. Along with China projects to be proposed under Section 1, a total fund of Ten Billion Pesos (P10,000,000,000.00) would be mobilized to fund extreme poverty.

Meria M. Arrayo

By the President:

EDUARDO R. ERMITA

Executive Secretary

Manila, 15 October 2007

