



31 OCT 27 AS: 20

MINISTRY MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 13-81  
Series of 1981

Subject: Delegation of Authority to Regional Directors  
to Approve Applications for Agricultural Settle-  
ment of Pioneer and/or Local Settler-Applicants.

It has been observed that applications for agricultural settle-  
ment filed in field offices are forwarded to the Bureau of Resettle-  
ment for final screening and processing and approval by the Minister.

Pursuant to the policy of decentralization and considering that  
the Regional Offices are in a better position to determine the quali-  
fications of applicants, the authority to approve said applications  
is hereby delegated to the Regional Directors, subject to the following  
guidelines:

1. No application shall be approved unless farm lots and  
home lots, which are covered by an approved subdivision  
survey, are available for allocation;
2. The basic qualifications to become settlers are as  
follows:
  - a. Filipino citizen;
  - b. Head of family and at least 21 years of age;
  - c. Physically capable of cultivating the land per-  
sonally or with the help of his immediate farm  
household;
  - d. Farmer and/or farm worker, not owning an economi-  
size farm;
  - e. Of good moral character and never been convicted  
of any crime involving moral turpitude.
3. In the absence of a provision in the proclamation identifying  
the beneficiaries to be resettled, the order of priority or preference  
in the selection of settlers shall be as follows:
  - a) Actual bonafide occupants of the land;
  - b) Surrendered dissidents, who take an oath and show  
sincere desire to support the Constitution of the  
Philippines;
  - c) Graduates of agricultural schools and colleges;
  - d) Trainees who have completed military training;
  - e) Veterans and members of guerilla organization; and
  - f) Other applicants possessing the qualifications  
required herein.
4. The Regional Offices shall furnish the Settlers' Affairs  
Division, Bureau of Resettlement, with a list of approved settlers;  
and,
5. The Bureau of Resettlement shall be responsible for coor-  
dinating with all offices and other government agencies concerned  
regarding the movement of approved settlers from their places of origin  
to the resettlement areas.

All orders, memoranda, circulars and other directives inconsistent  
herewith are hereby superseded and revoked accordingly.

Diliman, Quezon City, October 16, 1981.

*Conrado F. Estrella*  
CONRADO F. ESTRELLA  
Minister