



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Tunay na Pagbabago sa Repormang Agraryo



## MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 06  
SERIES OF 2023

Subject: **CREATION OF NATIONWIDE CONDONATION RESPONSE AND ACTION DESK**

### Prefatory Statement

Section 6,<sup>1</sup> Chapter 2, Book IV of E.O. No. 292<sup>2</sup> and Section 7<sup>3</sup> of E.O. No. 129-A bestowed upon the Secretary of the DAR the authority and responsibility to exercise the mandate of the Department and discharge its powers and functions and conferred upon him supervision and control of the Department.

Likewise, Section 7, Chapter 2, Book IV of Executive Order No. 292, in line with Section 5 of Executive Order No. 129-A and Section 49 of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended,<sup>4</sup> provides that the Secretary shall establish the policies and standards for the operation of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of the government.

Meanwhile, Republic Act ("R.A.") No. 11953,<sup>5</sup> or the "New Agrarian Emancipation Act," which was enacted on July 7, 2023, has come into effect on July 24, 2023. R.A. No. 11953 condones a total of ₱57.557 Billion of principal debt, inclusive of interests, penalties, and surcharges, of 610,054 Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries ("ARBs") who are tilling 1,173,101.57 hectares of Agrarian Reform Lands ("ARLs"). The names and other loan details amounting to ₱14.5 Billion of the said principal debt of a total of 263,622 ARBs covering 409,206.91 hectares of ARLs were already submitted by the Land Bank of the Philippines ("LBP") to the Congress, resulting in the outright condonation of the ₱14.5 Billion of principal debts, inclusive of interests, penalties, and surcharges.

On September 6, 2023, the Implementing Rules and Regulations ("IRR") of R.A. No. 11953 was signed, which mandates the immediate enforcement of R.A. No. 11953 and its completion within three (3) years from its effectivity. Thus, the Office of the President, through Executive Secretary Atty. Lucas P. Bersamin, issued Presidential Directive No. PBBM-2023-644, entitled, "Smooth an Immediate Execution of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the New Agrarian Emancipation Act (NAEA)," directing the Secretary of the DAR to pursue the smooth and effective implementation of the IRR of R.A. No. 11953.

In response to the mandate of R.A. No. 11953, its IRR, and the aforesaid Presidential Directive, there is a need to develop and establish an efficient and effective implementation, and continuous monitoring, of the IRR. Accordingly, a **Condonation Response and Action Desk** is hereby created with the mandate to expedite the condonation process, collate all the names and other loan details of the ARBs and to serve as one-stop-shop for the said ARBs where personnel from the DAR Municipal, Provincial, Regional, and Central Office will make available to the ARBs the necessary

<sup>1</sup> Section 6 [Chapter 2, Book IV, of Executive Order No. 292]. Authority and Responsibility of the Secretary. — The authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department.

<sup>2</sup> Instituting the Administrative Code of 1987.

<sup>3</sup> *Supra*, note 1.

<sup>4</sup> Amended by Republic Act No. 9700. An Act strengthening the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), extending the acquisition and distribution of all agricultural lands, instituting necessary reforms, amending for the purpose certain provisions of Republic Act No. 6657, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended, and appropriating funds therefor, [Republic Act No. 9700], August 7, 2009.

<sup>5</sup> An Act Emancipating Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries from Financial Burden by Condoning All Principal Loans, Unpaid Amortizations and Interests and Exempting Payment of Estate Tax on Agricultural Lands Awarded under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program [New Agrarian Emancipation Act] Republic Act No. 11953, July 7, 2023.

information and assistance regarding any query, comment, proposition, and ideas that may arise in the implementation of the IRR.

**Section 1. Condonation Response and Action Desk.** A Condonation Response and Action Desk is hereby established under the Office of the Secretary of the DAR, which shall serve as a command center with the aim to expedite the condonation process and ensure the smooth and effective execution of the IRR of R.A. No. 11953.

A National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center, which shall be headed by the Undersecretary for Legal Affairs Office (“LAO”), is hereby constituted. It shall have control and supervision over all Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers that shall likewise herein be constituted at the DAR Regional, Provincial, and Municipal Offices. The existing DAR Public Assistance and Information Center, or “PAIC,” at the DAR Central Office and the DAR Quick Response Operations systems, or “QROs,” whose present composition shall be maintained unless otherwise sooner reconstituted in a Special Order to be issued for that purpose, shall similarly be under the supervision and control of the National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center.

All Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers that are all herein established shall facilitate, record, and assist in the early resolution of all issues and concerns coming from the ARBs, paving the way for the smooth, effective execution and close monitoring of the IRR of R.A. No. 11953.

**Section 2. Administration of the Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center.** The Secretary of the DAR, or his designated Official, shall have control and management over the National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center and over all Regional, Provincial, and Municipal Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center, which shall be headed by their concerned Regional Director, Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer (“PARPO”) II, and Municipal Agrarian Reform Program Officer (“MARPO”), respectively.

**Section 3. Organizational Structure.** All Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers shall be under the control and supervision of the Secretary of the DAR, or his designated Official. The National, Regional, Provincial, and Municipal Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers are hereby constituted, as follows:

<b>Office of the Secretary (“OSEC”)</b>	
Chairman	- <b>Undersecretary</b> , Legal Affairs Office (“LAO”)
Members	- <b>Undersecretary</b> , Field Operations Office (“FOO”) - <b>Undersecretary</b> , Special Concerns Office (“SCO”) and External Affairs and Communications Operations Office (“EACOO”) - <b>Undersecretary</b> , Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Office (“FASPO”) - <b>Undersecretary</b> , Office for Mindanao Affairs (“OMA”) - <b>Undersecretary</b> , Policy, Planning and Research Office (“PPRO”) - <b>Assistant Secretary</b> , FASPO
<b>Regional Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center</b>	
Head	- Regional Director
Members	- Assistant Regional Director(s) - All Regional Division Chiefs - Regional QRO
<b>Provincial Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center</b>	
Head	- PARPO II
Members	- PARPO I - All Provincial Division Chiefs - Provincial QRO
<b>Municipal Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center</b>	
Head	- MARPO

Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Senior Agrarian Reform Program Technologist ("SARPT")</li> <li>- Agrarian Reform Program Technologist ("ARPT"), or</li> <li>- designated officer</li> </ul>
---------	--

The input, reports, and resolution regarding any and all concerns of the ARBs accounted by all the field Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers to the National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center shall be the basis of the monthly report to be submitted by the Secretary of the DAR to the Office of the President, through the Executive Secretary, of the effective and smooth implementation of the IRR of R.A. No. 11953.

**Section 4. Duties and Responsibilities.** The National, Regional, Provincial, and Municipal Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Centers shall provide frontline and ready service assistance to all ARBs by receiving, documenting, and assessing the information, queries, comments, suggestions, propositions, and other relevant data and responses emanating from affected stakeholders and the ARBs.

In the DAR Field Offices, the Municipal Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center, or in its absence, the Provincial Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center, shall collect and receive all information and relevant data from the ARBs and other stakeholders, and shall make a monthly report thereof to the Regional Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center. Similarly, the Regional Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center shall collate all the said information and data collected from the Provincial Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center and make a monthly report thereof to the National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center.

The National Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center shall closely monitor the report and other relevant data submitted to it by the Regional Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center and shall make a monthly account thereof to the Secretary of the DAR, who shall likewise submit his monthly report on the operations and accomplishments of the Condonation Response and Action Desk to the President.

**Section 5. Funding.** The expenses to be incurred from the operations of all Condonation Response and Action Desk Command Center in implementing this Memorandum Circular shall be charged against the appropriate funding sources under the Office of the Secretary of the DAR. In the event that the funding at the DAR Regional and Provincial Offices is insufficient, the budget therefor shall be augmented by the Office of the Secretary, upon submission of a supplemental budget request from the concerned DAR Regional and Provincial Offices, and subject to pertinent budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

**Section 6. Separability.** If any section or part of this Memorandum Circular is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 7. Repeal.** All issuances, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof that are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 8. Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect immediately.

Diliman, Quezon City. SEP 29 2023



**CONRADO M. ESTRELLA III**  
Secretary

