



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
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## MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO : The Regional Executive Directors  
Regions 1-13 and CAR

SUBJECT : **CLARIFICATION ON THE CANCELLATION ORDER FOR  
THE COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT  
AGREEMENT**

DATE : MAR 13 2006

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This refers to the Memoranda dated 30 November 2005 and 05 January 2006 of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ordering the cancellation of all existing Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) Agreements and other tenurial instruments issued by DENR in forestlands.

Consistent with the provisions of Executive Order No. 263, CBFM has been adopted since 1995 as a national strategy to ensure sustainable development of forestlands and resources in the country. It acknowledges and supports the capacities of local communities and Indigenous Peoples (IPs) to protect, rehabilitate, and manage forestlands and resources following the principles of social equity, sustainability and community participation.

Likewise, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, in her Executive Order No 318, ordered the implementation of CBFM as the primary strategy in all forest conservation, development and related activities. The same Order provides that CBFM shall be a collaborative undertaking of the national government and the Local Government Units (LGUs), local peoples, community organizations, and civil societies.

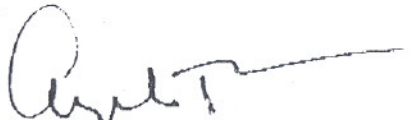
The cancellation of the CBFM Agreements (CBFMA) as directed in the above-cited memoranda has already adversely affected the implementation of the CBFM strategy. Likewise, it has been the subject of varied reactions from Peoples Organizations (POs), LGUs, Non-Government Organizations, other sectors, and even in Congress as manifested during the last budget hearing of DENR.

In this regard, and in order to sustain and gain public support in the implementation of CBFM, you are directed to strictly implement DENR Administrative Order No.2004-29, Revised Rules and Regulations for the Implementation of the CBFM Strategy, and immediately institute the following measures:

1. Hold further issuance of Cancellation Orders to CBFMA holders;
2. Provide technical assistance and support the normal operations of holders of CBFMA that were not cancelled;
3. Facilitate re-assessment/validation of all CBFMAs that were already cancelled and submit report and recommendations within thirty (30) days ; and
4. Continue the regular evaluation of performance of CBFMA holders.

Henceforth, make sure that the implementation of CBFM in your respective areas of jurisdiction is properly monitored and supervised. Submit report of your compliance to these instructions with Completed Staff Work (CSW) within fifteen (15) days upon receipt hereof as basis of further actions on the matter.

**FOR GUIDANCE AND STRICT COMPLIANCE.**

  
**ANGELO T. REYES**  
Secretary



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IN REPLYING, PLEASE CITE:  
**SENRO6-000133**

