

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION



What's Inside ?

NEW ADMINISTRATOR SETS DIRECTION FOR NIA:

Engr. Florencio F. Padernal's Strategic Directions for the National Irrigation Administration

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 165

Transferring the National Food Authority, National Irrigation Administration, Philippine Coconut Authority, and Fertilizer And Pesticide Authority to the Office of the President NIA Board of Directors by no less than President Benigno S. Aquino III on July 2, 2014.

On July 4, he was officially elected and proclaimed as the new NIA Administrator during a meeting of the Board pre-

sided by Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization (PAFSAM) Secretary Francis N. Pangilinan. The proclamation was followed by a simple turn-over of leadership from former Administrator Claro V. Maranan, whose term ended on June 30, to Engr. Padernal. The turn-over rites was witnessed by other NIA Board members and the agency's senior officials.

An Engineer by profession, Padernal had once been the Chairman of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) from 2002 to 2004. He also worked as a consultant and chief technical adviser of the World Bank in China and Mongolia from 1990 to 1993. He also held various posts including chief civil engineer and project director in the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for 16 years.

He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from Adamson University. Aside from being a licensed Civil Engineer, he finished a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila and a Ph.D in Public Administration from Centro Escolar University.

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From left to right: NEW ADMINISTRATOR SETS DIRECTION FOR NIA Ma. Gladys Cruz-Sta. Rita Claro V. Maranan Engr. Florencio F. Padernal, DPA Sec. Francis N. Pangilinan Rogelio L. Singson Rolando G. Tungpalan Ismael P. Tabije

Engr. Florencio F. Padernal's **Strategic Directions for** the National Irrigation **Administration**

s the newly installed Administrator of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), Engr. Florencio F. Padernal, DPA introduces his strategies to be used in directing the agency in effectively attaining its targets in terms of organizational efficiency and optimal irrigation service delivery. Such management thrusts are anchored in his desire to accelerate irrigation project implementation that is one of the key factors in ensuring agricultural productivity in the country.

Organizational Reforms

First in his list is reorganization from the Central Office down to the Irrigation Management Offices (IMOs). Thorough review and analysis of the staffing and functions will also be looked into to optimize the performance of the agency. Reassignments in the agency will take effect on August 1. Padernal also em-

operation into a manageable unit. In relation to organizational reforms, he mentions values that each and every NIAn should possess in performing their tasks: peace, unity, cooperation, teamwork, corporate discipline and professionalism, and dedication. For him, such traits are the prerequisites of an efficient serviceoriented organization.

Furthermore, he encourages "layering" in solving problems in field offices. Resolution of conflicts and issues should be elevated to regional offices first if the IMOs cannot, at their level, clearly resolve a problem. He points out that the Administrator will step in if both IMO and RO are not able to solve an issue.

formance. He also points out that flexibility within the agency is possible with a pool of consultants.

Accelerated Project Implementation

Engr. Padernal also wants to fast-track the implementation of irrigation projects by introducing new strategies in the entire project implementation process to be able to capture big physical accomplishments. In terms of project programming, Padernal wants all units to avoid project splitting so that projects may be finished in 2-5 years instead of 10 years that is happening in some of the projects currently being implemented by NIA.

Project planning, according to him, also needs to be improved. For projects to have

Padernal also stresses that the agency will be maximizing the use of private conbecause according to him, the capacity of the organization is not enough to elevate the per-

sultants

existing

agency's



ment of a realistic baseline data should be prioritized. With an updated baseline data, precise information will be made available that will truly be useful in preparation of a project. In line with project planning, proper selection of projects will also be observed to ensure appropriate irrigation projects are provided. Also, a ten-year long-term master planning will be conducted to pave way for the agency's plans and programs for the future. Related to this is the updating of the Corporate Plan.

Feasibility studies, surveys, and preliminary and detailed design of projects will be conducted 3-6 months before actual implementation to ensure that a project is properly prepared before implementation.

Another important aspect in the project implementation process that according to him needs to be improved is project monitoring to ensure that awarded projects are implemented within the calendar of implementation. Connected to this is the creation and development of a project monitoring manual as well as a system operations manual. Existing manuals will be reviewed and updated to fit the current needs of the agency.

Restoration and rehabilitation of projects will also be



prioritized in the next two years to increase the coverage of irrigated areas.

Also related to fast-tracking implementation of projects programmed in 2015, a directive has been released advising field offices to push through with the procurement process short of award, even though allotments are not yet released, including the following procurement stages: Procurement Planning; Pre-Procurement Conference; Advertisement and/or Postina of the Invitation to Bid; Pre-Bid Submission and Conference; Receipt of Bids; Opening and Evaluation of Bidders' Envelope; Detailed Evaluation of Bids: and Post-Qualification of Bids.

Strengthened Press and Public Relations

The Administrator also wants to strengthen the agency's public presence through media exposure. A NIA Press Corps will be established to be able to institutionalize and professionalize media relations. A regular press conference will be conducted so that the public will be well-informed of the agency's activities.

Farmers' Participation

Through Padernal's initiatives, participation of farmorganizations in project ers' implementation will be assured. This is in line with the improvement and strengthening of the agency's Institutional Development thrusts. He will ensure field visitations regular to connect with the farmers and other sectors that are essential in the improved implementation of irrigation projects.

Financial Viability

Engr. Padernal will also want to ensure the agency's financial viability by ensuring that internally generated funds are well utilized through proper distribution and prioritization. Likewise, to optimize fund utilization. he hopes to centralize the releases of funds to be able to have greater control of the agency's finances. To kick-off the improvement of NIA's finances, he asks that an evaluation of the utilization of internally generated income be performed as well as the improvement of its generation from various sources especially in Irrigation Service Fee (ISF) collection.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 165

TRANSFERRING THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, **NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION**, PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY, AND FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



MALACAÑAN PALACE MANILA

02 July 2014

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Pursuant to the provisions of existing laws; you are hereby appointed **MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION (NIA),** to serve the Term of Office beginning on 01 July 2014 and ending on 30 June 2015, vice Claro V. Maranan.

By virtue hereof, you may qualify and enter upon the performance of the duties of the office, furnishing this Office and the Civil Service Commission with copies of your oath of office.



HON. FLORENCIO F. PADERNAL Thru: The Secretary Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization Makati City

> Produced by the **Public Affairs and Information Staff** National Irrigation Administration EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City