

XXIX. THE JUDICIARY

A. SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE LOWER COURTS

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

MANDATE

The Supreme Court of the Philippines and the Lower Courts perform adjudicative functions vested on them by the Philippine Constitution and other applicable laws. Their judicial power includes "the duty of the courts of justice to settle actual controversies involving rights which are legally demandable and enforceable, and to determine whether or not there has been a grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack of excess of jurisdiction on the part of any branch or instrumentality of the Government."

VISION

An independent, impartial, effective and efficient Judiciary, protective of the rights of the people and the democratic institutions to ensure sustainable human development

MISSION

To uphold the rule of law through fair, expeditious and timely judicial process in defending the constitutional and democratic rights and welfare of the people, and consistently pursue effective and efficient administration of justice

KEY RESULT AREAS

Just and lasting peace and the rule of law

SECTOR OUTCOME

Improvement and strengthening of the Judicial System and Process and Accessibility of the Judicial System by the poor

ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOME

Independent, effective and efficient administration of justice

New Appropriations, by Program/Project

=====

		<u>Current Operating Expenditures</u>			
		<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Maintenance and Other Operating</u>	<u>Capital</u>	
		<u>Services</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Outlays</u>	<u>Total</u>
PROGRAMS					
100000000	General Administration and Support	P 3,664,546,000	P 2,015,245,000	P 1,000,000	P 5,680,791,000
300000000	Operations	9,302,958,000	1,220,905,000		10,523,863,000
	MFO 1 : Resolution/Decisions in Appealed And Other Cases Under Its Jurisdiction	9,302,958,000	1,220,905,000		10,523,863,000
Total, Programs		12,967,504,000	3,236,150,000	1,000,000	16,204,654,000

PROJECT(S)				
400000000	Locally-Funded Project(s)	30,000,000	173,000,000	203,000,000
Total, Project(s)		30,000,000	173,000,000	203,000,000
TOTAL NEW APPROPRIATIONS		P12,967,504,000 P 3,266,150,000 P	174,000,000	P16,407,654,000

New Appropriations, by Central/Regional Allocation

	<u>Current Operating Expenditures</u>			
	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Maintenance</u>	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Services</u>	<u>and Other</u>	<u>Outlays</u>	
		<u>Operating</u>		
		<u>Expenses</u>		
REGION				
Regional Allocation	P12,967,504,000 P	3,266,150,000 P	174,000,000	P16,407,654,000
National Capital Region (NCR)	12,967,504,000	3,266,150,000	174,000,000	16,407,654,000
Total New Appropriations	P12,967,504,000 P 3,266,150,000 P	174,000,000	P16,407,654,000	

Special Provision(s)

1. **Judiciary Development Fund.** In addition to the amounts appropriated herein, all income derived from increase in the legal fees prescribed in the amendments to Rule 141 of the Rules of Court promulgated by the Supreme Court of the Philippines after July 18, 1984 shall be deposited by the Chief Justice or his duly authorized representative in an authorized government depository bank and shall be used to augment the allowances of the members and personnel of the Judiciary and finance the acquisition, maintenance and repair of office equipment and facilities pursuant to Sections 1 and 3 of P.D. No. 1949: PROVIDED, That at least eighty percent (80%) of said amount shall be used for the payment of cost of living allowances, and not more than twenty percent (20%) shall be used for the purchase of office equipment and facilities of the courts where the legal fees are collected: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the allowances of the members and personnel of the Judiciary shall be distributed in proportion to their basic salaries.

The COA shall audit the receipts, revenues, uses, disbursements and expenditures of the Fund every quarter, and submit the appropriate report in writing to the Chairperson of the COA and to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, copy furnished the Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals and all Executive Judges.

Likewise, the Supreme Court, shall submit either in printed form or by way of electronic document, to the DBM, copy furnished the House Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Finance, quarterly reports on its income and expenditures, and the status of the Fund. The Chief Justice and the Court's web administrator or his/her equivalent shall likewise be responsible for ensuring that said reports are posted on the official website of the Supreme Court.

2. **Special Allowance.** Considering that the special allowance granted to Justices, Judges and all other positions in the Judiciary with the equivalent rank of Justices of the Courts of Appeals and Judges of the Regional Trial Court under R.A. No. 9227 have already been fully integrated into their salary increases as of June 1, 2012, the amount of Five Hundred Forty One Million Four Hundred Twenty Eight Thousand Pesos (P541,428,000) corresponding to the Special Allowance of the Judiciary component of their salaries shall now be deposited with the National Treasury as income of the General Fund pursuant to Section 44, Chapter 5, Book VI of E.O. No. 292, s. 1987. Once deposited, the salary being received by the members of the Judiciary shall be sourced and funded from the General Fund.

3. **Administration of Appropriations.** The appropriations provided herein for the Supreme Court of the Philippines and the Lower Courts shall be administered by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, subject to the provisions of P.D. No. 985, as amended, E.O. No. 292, and other pertinent budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

4. **Organizational Structure.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, and within the limits of the appropriations authorized in this Act, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is hereby authorized: (i) to formulate and implement the organizational structure of the Judiciary; (ii) to fix and determine the salaries, allowances and other benefits of Judiciary personnel in accordance with the rates and levels authorized under R.A. No. 6758, as amended and R.A. No. 6686, as amended; and (iii) to make adjustments in the Personnel Services itemization including, but not limited to, the transfer of item or creation of new positions in the Judiciary, whenever public interest so requires: PROVIDED, That any modification of existing organizational structure and staffing pattern shall comply with existing organization, staffing and position classification and compensation standards, and shall in no case increase the total funding requirements for Personnel Services: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the retirement and separation benefits of employees whose positions are affected by such organizational modification shall be paid in accordance with applicable laws, and shall be sourced from any

unexpended balance of, or savings in, the appropriations of their respective offices: PROVIDED, FINALLY, That a request on the foregoing changes and modifications shall be submitted to the DBM for proper documentation and to ensure compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

5. Use of Savings. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is authorized to use savings generated from any item of appropriations in the Judiciary to cover actual deficiencies incurred for the current year and for the following purposes: (i) maintenance, repair, and improvement of their compounds and other facilities; (ii) payment of adjusted pension rates to retired Justices entitled thereto pursuant to Section 3-A of R.A. No. 910, as amended by R.A. No. 1797, and Supreme Court (SC) Administrative Matter (A.M.) No. 91-8-225-C.A.; (iii) payment of extraordinary expenses, transportation and representation allowances and other authorized benefits for Justices, Clerks of Court, and other court officials and personnel; and (iv) necessary expenses for the employment of temporary employees for judicial administration.

6. Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses of the Lower Courts. The amount of One Billion Two Hundred Twenty Million Nine Hundred Five Thousand Pesos (P1,220,905,000) appropriated herein for the MOOE of the lower courts shall be equitably allocated by the Supreme Court to all lower courts based on its case loads and on other standards prescribed for lower courts by the Supreme Court in consultation with the DBM.

To facilitate the utilization of said MOOE allocation and ensure that the requirements of lower courts are readily available and provided, the Procurement Service (PS), through its Regional Depots shall provide an easy access facility for lower courts to source all their supplies, materials and equipment from the PS.

7. Expenses for Official Travel. Reimbursement of actual and reasonable expenses incurred during official travel in carrying out the supervisory functions of the Supreme Court over lower courts may be authorized by the Chief Justice, subject to the limits prescribed by E.O. No. 298, s. 2004, and shall be duly supported by receipts and subject to pertinent accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

8. Payment of Adjusted Pension Rates to Retired Justices. The amounts appropriated herein for payment of pensions to retired Judges and Justices shall include the payment of pensions at the adjusted rates to retired Justices entitled thereto pursuant to Section 3-A of R.A. No. 910, as amended by R.A. No. 1797, and SC A.M. No. 91-8-225-C.A.

9. Non-Recurring Expenses. All non-recurring appropriations herein such as, but not limited to, foreign-assisted projects and locally-funded projects, shall not form part of the Judiciary's appropriations that may not be reduced by Congress under Section 3, Article VIII of the Constitution.

10. Appropriations for Programs and Specific Activities. The amounts appropriated herein for the programs of the agency shall be used specifically for the activities in the amounts indicated under the Details of the FY 2014 Budget attached as Annex A (Volume 1) of this Act.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

KEY STRATEGIES :

Delivery of independent, effective and efficient service/decisions through:

1. Improved case management
2. Efficient court operations
3. Judicial training and legal education institutions
4. Better court physical and technologies processes
5. Quality court decisions
6. Consequent restoration of public trust

MAJOR FINAL OUTPUTS (MFO) / PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Targets

MFO 1: RESOLUTIONS/DECISIONS IN APPEALED AND OTHER CASES UNDER ITS JURISDICTION

Regional Trial Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	144,661
Disposition rate	32%
Metropolitan Trial Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	77,609
Disposition rate	51%
Municipal Trial Court in Cities	
No. of resolutions/decisions	66,206
Disposition rate	50%

Municipal Circuit Trial Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	22,366
Disposition rate	48%
Municipal Trial Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	65,377
Disposition rate	98%
Shari'a District Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	34
Disposition rate	25%
Shari'a Circuit Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	1,820
Disposition rate	107%
Child and Family Court	
No. of resolutions/decisions	35,694
Disposition rate	38%
Regional Trial Court - Region 7	
No. of resolutions/decisions	16,242
Disposition rate	29%
Municipal Trial Court in Cities - Region 7	
No. of resolutions/decisions	17,910
Disposition rate	66%
Municipal Circuit Trial Court - Region 7	
No. of resolutions/decisions	2,352
Disposition rate	45%
Municipal Trial Court - Region 7	
No. of resolutions/decisions	865
Disposition rate	54%