CIRCULAR LETTER

TO : ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, BUREAUS, OFFICES, COMMISSIONS, STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, OTHER INSTRUMENTALITIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : FORWARD ESTIMATES (FEs) FOR FYs 2015-2017

1.0 Purpose

This Circular Letter is being issued to inform all Departments/Agencies on the guidelines adopted by the DBM on the updating/formulation of the Forward Estimates (FEs) for FY's 2015-2017. The updated/formulated FEs shall be the basis of the FY 2015 Indicative Budget Ceilings which shall guide the departments/agencies in their respective budgeting and planning exercise.

2.0 Rationale

For the FY 2015 Budget Preparation, the DBM shall update/formulate the FYs 2015-2017 FEs, from October to November 2013 in time for the issuance of the FY 2015 Indicative Budget Ceiling by December 2013. The FEs shall be used to determine the magnitude of the annual costs of all on-going budgetary programs and projects which will be set aside to ensure their continuous funding, should the government not change its expenditure policies. Moreover, the FEs shall be used to determine the allocable amount or fiscal headroom for the period 2015-2017 which will allow additional funding to the priority sectors or areas of expenditure.

3.0 General Guidelines

3.1 The Budget Priorities Framework1 adopted during the FY 2014 Budget Preparation shall be sustained in the FEs updating/formulation. Specifically, the funding requirements to be determined during the FEs updating/formulation shall be aligned with those on-going programs and projects of the departments/agencies which directly or substantially support the priorities anchored in the following priority areas and consistent with the Philippine Development Plan; in particular:

3.1.1 Sustaining the Growth Momentum
- Current Drivers: BPO and Electronics Industries
- Transport Infrastructure Program
- Agricultural Development Program
- Tourism Development Program

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1Defined under National Budget Memorandum No. 118 dated April 25, 2013 entitled Adoption of the Budget Priorities Framework in the Preparation of the FY 2014 Agency Budget Proposals
3.1.2 Making Growth Inclusive
- Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program
- Universal Health Care Program
- Housing for Informal Settler Families in Danger Areas
- Education Program

3.1.3 Generating Jobs/Livelihood
- Infrastructure Development
- Manufacturing Revival Program¹

3.2 The FE’s shall cover the estimated annual costs of on-going budgetary programs and projects. The financial requirements for the out-years (i.e., FYs 2015-2017) shall be matched with targeted outputs and shall be reflected in the respective MFO targets of the agency. The targeted outputs and commitments of departments/agencies shall be based on the planning tools approved by the President² or consistent with Cabinet Cluster discussions and recommendations.

3.2.1 For budgetary programs, the FE’s shall consider the FY 2014 NEP allocation, changes in economic parameters and the targeted outputs for the out-years. The FE’s shall cover the estimated annual requirements for the out-years beyond the current budget (or fiscal) year i.e., 2015-2017. In case there were profiles/strategic plans submitted for sub-programs under each budgetary programs/MFOs during the FY 2014 Budget preparation, the data provided should be used as reference in determining the target outputs and estimated requirements for 2015-2017, in close coordination with the agency concerned.

3.2.2 For budgetary projects, i.e., LFP and PAPs, the FE’s shall cover the annual requirements up to the approved completion date. Annual requirements shall be based on the approved project profile after considering the likely end-of-year accomplishments based on reports as of September 30, 2013 and based on the allocation provided in the FY 2014 NEP. The foreign exchange rate of P42.00:$/1 (midpoint) shall be used in determining the peso equivalent of the foreign currency. This rate shall be applied until FY 2017.

3.2.2.1 Only on-going projects shall be included in the FE’s updating/formulation. In case of projects that are regularly undertaken but being done periodically and not annually (i.e. surveys, etc) the FE requirements should be indicated in the pertinent year it will be undertaken.

3.2.2.2 Succeeding phases of on-going multi-phase projects still to be approved by competent authorities (i.e., ICC, ERB) shall not be included in the FE’s.

3.2.2.2.1 Projects costing P1 billion and above is subject to the approval of the ICC, while projects lower than P1 billion should have been endorsed by the department head and validated by the DBM.

3.2.2.2.2 Requirements of succeeding phases of an on-going project without the necessary approvals shall be

²Includes SME Development Program
³Among the departments/agencies whose planning tool has already been approved by the President include the DPWH, DOT, DOE, DILG and DOTC.
decided during the Executive Review Board (ERB) deliberations.

3.2.2.3 New projects which have been approved by the NEDA Board after the FY 2014 Budget Preparation and were not included in the FY 2014 NEP shall be included in the FEs. If there are issues or other concerns relative to the new projects, these should be elevated to the ERB for decision/resolution before their funding requirements be included in the FEs.

3.3 The FY 2014 NEP shall be the base/starting figures in updating/formulating the FYs 2015-2017 FEs. The updated/formulated FEs shall be consistent with the policies/decisions adopted for the FY 2014 budget preparation and execution.

3.4 Adjustments have to be made for changes in the economic parameters. For reference, the inflation rate and resulting indexation factor are provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inflation</th>
<th>Cum. Indexation Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 (Base)</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.03000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.06000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.09273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.1 MOOE requirements of budgetary projects shall not be adjusted to inflation since this should have already been considered in its total project cost as provided in the project profile;

3.5 For an agency which was transferred from one department to another as reflected in the FY 2014 NEP, its FEs shall be included in the recipient department.

3.6 Funding requirements for the following Personnel Services items shall be determined in coordination with the OPCCB:

3.6.1 Funding requirements for the filling-up of positions and creation of new positions of civilian and uniformed/military personnel as authorized for 2014 shall be lodged under the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Fund (MPBF). The MBBS shall coordinate with the OPCCB and the latter shall prepare and consolidate this together with all other expenditure items identified under the MPBF such as Other Personnel Benefits, Productivity Enhancement Incentive (PEI) and Performance-Based Benefits (PBB) among others.

3.6.1.1 Agencies with existing unfilled positions shall not be allowed to request for new positions. The requirements of the said PS item shall not be included in the FEs.

3.6.2 Pension requirements of uniformed/military personnel shall be lodged under the Pension and Gratuity Fund (PGF). The MBBS shall coordinate the said pension requirements to the BTS and the latter shall prepare and consolidate this together with all other expenditure items identified under the PGF such as Retirement and Terminal Leave, Separation Benefits and/or Incentives and Monetization of Transferred Leave Credits among others.
3.6.3 For CFAG agencies however, their requirements for filling-up of positions, creation of new positions and pension as authorized for 2014 shall be built-in their regular budget consistent with their fiscal autonomous status. These requirements however shall be disclosed in a separate row entry under the Personnel Services. The corresponding targets (i.e., number of positions created/filled and number of pensioners) shall also be presented.

3.7 In determining the funding requirements of on-going IS/ICT related activities, the following shall be considered:

3.7.1 The budgetary requirements of the following IS/ICT related MOOE items shall be included in the respective FEs of the agency:

- 3.7.1.1 Internet connectivity subscription;
- 3.7.1.2 Rental/lease of printers/scanners;
- 3.7.1.3 ICT supplies (i.e., toners/cartridges, continuous forms, USB, mouse, storage devices, CCTV cameras and biometric devices except for desktops/laptops);
- 3.7.1.4 ICT trainings;
- 3.7.1.5 Ongoing IT systems development projects covered by a MYOA;
- 3.7.1.6 Maintenance contracts of existing IT/network and agency specific software systems;
- 3.7.1.7 Existing data hosting and ongoing construction of IT infrastructure (e.g., data center); and
- 3.7.1.8 Maintenance of existing agency computer laboratories and kiosks.

3.7.2 The requirements of the IS/ICT related MOOE items enumerated from 3.7.1.5 to 3.7.1.8 shall be validated/confirmed by the MITHI Steering Committee during the ERB deliberations on the FEs.

3.7.3 The budgetary requirements for the acquisition of the following IS/ICT related MOOE items shall not be included in the respective FEs of the agency (except for CFAG agencies):

- 3.7.3.1 Laptop/desktop/netbook/tablets;
- 3.7.3.2 Office productivity software (i.e., office suite and anti-virus);
- 3.7.3.3 Network devices (e.g., wifi routers, switches and UPS/power supply);
- 3.7.3.4 Network maintenance softwares (e.g., firewall and database management software); and
- 3.7.3.5 Other electronic devices (e.g., printers, scanners, digital cameras, video cameras and projectors).

3.7.4 The requirements of the IS/ICT related expenditures enumerated under Item 3.7.3 shall be determined by the MITHI Steering Committee and shall be decided by the ERB.

3.8 The requirements of the School Building Program (SBP) of the DepEd and Health Facilities Enhancement Program (HFEP) of the DOH shall be based on the planning tools approved by the President or shall be consistent with Cabinet Cluster discussions. If the planning tool is not yet approved and no decisions were made during Cabinet Cluster meetings, the requirements of the said programs shall be maintained at the FY 2014 NEP level.
3.9 The following items shall be considered in updating/formulating the FEs:

3.9.1 The annual future costs of the ideal level of service to be provided by certain agencies to its beneficiaries consistent with their respective planning tools approved by the President. These shall take account of the gaps or backlogs after considering their cumulative accomplishments, the requirements provided in the previous years against their medium-term target and resource requirements;

3.9.2 The associated costs (government counterpart) of PPP projects approved by the NEDA Board including the annual requirements indicated in the approved Multi-Year Obligational Authority (MYOA) issued as of September 30, 2013;

3.9.3 The budgetary requirements (i.e., for a maximum of six-months) to cover the winding-up activities of completing projects;

3.10 The following items, on the other hand, shall be excluded in the computation of FEs:

3.10.1 Increase in TPC of FAPs and LFPs (costing P1 billion and above) without ICC-CabCom approval;

3.10.2 Increase in TPC of LFPs (costing below P1 billion) not validated by DBM;

3.10.3 Regularization of Personnel from completed projects;

3.10.4 Taxes associated with foreign grants and loans (e.g. VAT for contractors in JICA projects). However, non-cash tax obligations of agencies must be tagged and summarized for later consolidation under TEF;

3.10.5 Existing programs/projects that were discontinued/deferred in FY 2013, provided that the deferment of the programs/projects is until FY 2017. If a deferred program/project shall commence in one of the out-year period (i.e., FYs 2015-2017), its budgetary implications shall be accounted for in the FEs;

3.10.6 Feasibility studies and pre-investment activities of implementing agencies. These items shall be coursed through the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) for evaluation and inclusion in the Feasibility Studies Fund; and

3.10.7 Non-recurring expenses

4.0 SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

4.1 The target outputs/commitments of the agency per MFO/PI/Programs/Projects for FYs 2015-2017 shall be determined in coordination with the agency and summarized to the extent possible.

4.1.1 The targets used in the FY 2014 NEP shall be the default target outputs for the out-years. Adjustments on the annual targets shall be based on the President-approved planning tools, submitted program/subprogram profiles/plans and approved project profiles and medium-term expenditure program or similar documents provided by the agency.
4.1.2 BMBs shall refer to the targeted outputs indicated in the profiles and latest performance reports to consider both the cumulative financial and physical accomplishments of the program/project in their analysis.

4.2 The corresponding annual financial requirements shall be identified by component activities (i.e., GASS, STO, Operations and Projects) and by allotment class. Programs identified under the Operations shall be presented by MFOs. If applicable, provide the UACS code for each program/project/activity.

4.3 The implications of the following changes shall be considered in determining the requirements of programs/projects for FYs 2015-2017:

4.3.1 Revision in the implementation plan (i.e., schedule and target outputs/commitments) of on-going programs/projects of the departments/agencies because of policy changes or based on latest accomplishment reports/financial performance;

4.3.2 New sub-programs/projects, including adjustments which were only started/approved for implementation in FY 2013;

4.3.3 New policy pronouncements affecting implementation of existing programs/projects and; and MYOA issued after the deliberations of the FY 2014 budget, if any, and;

4.3.4 Changes in economic parameters, if any.

4.4 The FYs 2015-2017 requirements of new programs or projects identified in Items 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 shall be determined in accordance with the applicable procedures under Item 5.1 for budgetary programs and Item 5.2 for budgetary projects.

4.5 If the change refers to non-recurring programs, projects or expenditure items, no adjustment shall be reflected after FY 2014. Likewise, provision for lump sum items, except for expenditure items identified under the Quick Response Fund (QRF) shall not be included in the FE's of the departments/agencies.

5.0 UPDATING OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN THE FY 2014 NEP

5.1 BUDGETARY PROGRAMS

5.1.1 Identify all the programs included in the FY 2014 NEP which shall continue until FY 2017.

5.1.1.1 In determining the financial requirements of the programs, including the requirements for GASS and STO for the outyears, the various concerns enumerated under Items 3.9 and 3.10 shall be considered.

5.1.1.2 To the extent possible, use the standard or average (at least two-year actual) cost per unit of output or group of outputs to arrive at the financial requirement per program. If none, use the unit cost based on the FY 2014 NEP level with the MOOE requirements adjusted in accordance with Item 5.1.1.3. The PS requirements shall be based on the PS level in the FY 2014 NEP.
5.1.1.3 For MOOE (except for population driven and target related expenditure items), the annual requirements shall be computed as follows:

5.1.1.3.1 The following MOOE items which are based on contract/rate and those with fixed amounts shall not be indexed to inflation:

- Rents
- Professional Services
- Subscription Expenses
- Membership Dues and Contributions
- Confidential and Intelligence
- Extraordinary and Miscellaneous Expense
- Awards and Indemnities
- Subsidies and Donations
- Taxes and Premiums
- Labor and Wages
- Rewards and Other Claims
- Other expenses based on contract/rate or with fixed amount

5.1.1.3.2 The remaining MOOE items not enumerated under Item 5.1.1.3.1 shall be multiplied to the inflation factor for the respective year. The indexed amount shall be added to the non-indexed MOOE items to come up with the total MOOE requirements.

5.1.1.4 The requirements for recurring items and other adjustments, if any, shall be reflected in the respective years, provided those succeeding years' requirements have been approved by the ERB during the FY 2014 budget preparation. Necessary documents such as letter of instruction, highlights of the meeting, or matrix/summary of decisions shall be submitted together with the FEs to support the adjustments made.

5.2 BUDGETARY PROJECTS

5.2.1 In general, the annual requirements of budgetary projects shall be culled from the approved project profiles i.e., within specified time frame (from the start date to completion date) and within the available TPC balance. This profile already includes the annual requirement of approved cost overruns, if any.

5.2.2 The available TPC balance may be computed by deducting the cumulative obligations, the current year provision (including continuing appropriations), and the amount provided in the FY 2014 NEP from the TPC.

5.2.3 Any change in the TPC and/or in the implementation period of ongoing ICC-approved projects (e.g., project extension) shall only be made when there is a written approval of the NEDA Board.

*Communication expenses which are based on contracts shall not be multiplied to the inflation factor.
5.2.4 The amount spent by agencies should be matched with their physical accomplishments for the same period. Any remarkable mismatch shall be one of the talking points for discussion with the agency.

5.2.5 However, no FE(s) shall be provided under the following circumstances:

5.2.5.1 In case the agency has fully utilized the TPC earlier than schedule but failed to finish the project.

5.2.5.2 In case the agency failed to finish the project as per completion date even if the TPC has not been fully utilized.

5.2.5.3 In case all the project components have been completed even if the TPC has not been fully utilized.

5.2.5.4 In case the amount released/spent is not matched with corresponding accomplishment and no clear direction on catch-up plan provided by the agency.

5.2.6 The implications of the circumstances enumerated in Section 5.2.5 to the project implementation shall be elevated to the ERB for decision/resolution. The agency concerned shall be required to provide reasons for failing to complete the project on the completion date and within the approved total project cost. Request for additional allocation shall be treated as new proposal.

*Foreign-Assisted Projects*

5.2.7 The TPC both for Loan Proceeds and Peso Counterpart shall be maintained/expressed in original foreign currency (e.g., US Dollars, US $) and its peso equivalent.

5.2.8 In determining the available TPC balance, the annual obligations incurred shall be converted from peso to foreign currency using the Forex rate (e.g., peso to dollar) on the year the obligation was incurred.

5.2.9 Increase in cost of a project component which is chargeable against the contingency/unallocated amount of the TPC shall not be considered as cost overrun.

5.2.10 The approved financing mix (or GOP-LP ratio) shall be maintained.

5.3 Special Purpose Funds, except for Assistance to Local Government Units - MMDA

5.3.1 For formula-based SPF(s) (e.g. IRA, Special Shares) – the annual requirements shall be determined consistent with the provisions of the law and the projected data from the source government entity;

5.3.2 For other SPF(s), use the FY 2014 NIPP level, unless other determinant factors (e.g., projected funding gap for BSGC, additional firm commitments for ICF) necessitate adjustment of the level for the out-years.

5.4 The annual associated costs of PPP projects approved by the NEDA-Board and requirements of contracts for Locally-Funded and Foreign-Assisted Projects covered by MYDA issued as of September 30, 2013 shall be reflected in the
budget of the respective agency. Pending determination of the estimated requirements by NEDA and implementing agencies, the allocation for on-going PPP projects shall be maintained at FY 2014 NEP level. Any increase to the amount provided shall be decided during the ERB deliberations chargeable against the fiscal space for the year.

6.0 The annual requirement for each budgetary program and project as determined for each corresponding year until 2017 for budgetary programs and until project completion for budgetary projects may be compared with the FY 2014 NEP level to reassess/evaluate total funding level taking into consideration the increase/decrease in the corresponding outputs of the agency.

7.0 The DBM shall coordinate with departments/agencies in the updating/formulation of the forward estimates. The departments/agencies are enjoined to cooperate and render assistance, particularly in providing data/information relative to their existing P/A/Ps, including submission of various accomplishments/accountability reports in support of this budget preparation activity.

8.0 Notwithstanding the provisions cited under this Circular, the ERB, whenever necessary, may recommend new or amend existing policies relative to the FEs activity.

9.0 Any clarification regarding this Circular may be coordinated directly with the concerned bureaus of this department.

Attachment A - Glossary of Terms
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Budgetary Program** - A homogeneous group of activities of an agency necessary for the performance of a major purpose for which a government agency is established, for the basic maintenance of the agency's administrative operations or for the provisions of staff support to the agency's administrative operations or for the provisions of staff support to the agency's line functions. **Key programs** are those programs which are, in general, under Operations intended for the production of goods or delivery of services or direct engagement in regulations.

**Budgetary Projects** - Special agency undertakings which are to be carried out within a definite time frame and which are intended to result some pre-determined measure of goods and services. Budgetary Projects are classified as Locally-Funded Projects (LFPs), if financed out of revenue collections and domestic borrowings or Foreign-Assisted Projects (FAPs), if wholly or partly financed by foreign loans and/or foreign grants.

**Cost Overruns** - Any DBM-approved and agency-recommended increase in funding vis-à-vis the original project cost (per original project agreement). Cost overruns of ICC-approved projects amounting to ten percent (10%) of original project cost require prior ICC approval, whether funded from local or foreign sources.

**Economic Parameters** - The variables expressed as indices or ratios applied to a budget estimate to measure the level of service delivery approved by the Government e.g., inflation rate or population growth used to adjust demand-driven budget expenditures for the effect of changes in prices or demographic factors.

**Fiscal Space** - The available funding that the government could use for its priority programs. Fiscal space is computed as the difference of projected obligation ceilings (after considering projected revenues and deficit targets) and forward estimates of ongoing programs.

**Financial Expense** - A new expense category, these refer to management supervision/trusteeship fees, interest expenses, guarantee fees, bank charges, commitment fees and other financial charges incurred in owning or borrowing an asset property.

**Forward Estimates** - Projections or estimation of the future costs of existing policies. It also serves as the validation instrument of determining the reasonable levels of agency proposals on existing programs/projects/activities.

**FY 2014 National Expenditure Program (NEP)** - Expenditure program submitted to Congress, inclusive of all appropriation sources (i.e., General Appropriation and Automatic Appropriations) as adjusted for errata.

**Information and Communications Technology (ICT)** - The totality of electronic means to collect, store, process, disseminate, propagate and present information to end-users in support of their activities. It consists, among others, of computer systems, office systems and consumer electronics, as well as networked information infrastructure, the components of which include telephone system, the internet, fax machines and computers.
Information System (IS) – Refers to a system of major processes or operations which facilitates the collection, storage, processing, retrieval of data and the generation of information for decision-making, planning, controlling and monitoring purposes. It also refers to a group of related processes designed to generate information for the exclusive support of a major functional area of an organization (e.g., National Government Accounting System, Case Monitoring System, Geodetic Survey Information System, etc.)

Key Result Areas (KRAs) – The five priority areas of focus of the Aquino Social Contract with the Filipino People, as defined by Executive Order (EO) No. 43 issued on May 13, 2011.

Loan/Grant Closing Date – Refers to the end-date of the availability of loan/grant proceeds as stated in the loan/grant agreement.

Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), indexed items - Expense items which are sensitive to changes in prices and therefore are multiplied with the inflation index for the pertinent years. Examples of these items are repair and maintenance, supplies and materials, utility, printing and binding, advertising, among others. These are applicable to specific expense items under budgetary programs. However, for FAPs/LFPs, the annual maintenance requirement shall be consistent with those in the latest approved project profiles.

Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), non-indexed items – Expense items with fixed rate under existing laws (such as rate for Extraordinary and Miscellaneous Expenses) or subject to existing contract (such as Rents, Professional Services, Subscription Expenses, Membership Dues and Contributions to Organization) MOOE items of FAPs/LFPs, culled from the project profile and those items that are dependent on other factors such as Supplies and Materials which vary based on the number of target beneficiaries/applicants/buying price (e.g. number of students for the textbooks of DepEd, buying price and number of passport applicants for DFA, number of inmates for the subsistence allowance of BJMP and BuCor).

New Proposal – A new budgetary item or project, or a proposal to increase the level of service delivery of on-going budgetary programs which the agency submitted for funding from the fiscal space (allocable amount).

Non-recurring items – One-time expenditure items in a given budget year (e.g., purchase of motor vehicles, one-time acquisition of land and/or building).

On-going Programs and Projects – Refers to the budgetary programs and projects approved under the FY 2014 NEP including those approved programs and projects in the National Action Plan of each KRA cluster if approved by the President and those that are periodic in nature (e.g. NSCB designated statistics conducted every three or five years).

Out-year(s) – Refers to each of the year beyond the current budget (fiscal) year covered by forward estimates (e.g., 2014 – current budget (fiscal) year, 2015-2017 – out-years for budgetary programs and years up to project completion date per project profile for budgetary projects).

Project Completion Date – Refers to the date the project is programmed to be physically completed.

Project Profile – Form submitted by agencies implementing FAPs or LFPs which contains pertinent facts about the project, e.g., the project’s name, project description/objectives, project component to be undertaken and approved allocation, cost structure by expense class, implementation period and total project cost (TPC). The
funding source for FAPs (name of the lending institution/donor agency financing the project) and the original currency and peso equivalent of the TPC are likewise provided in the form. For LFPs and FAPs, the form is submitted prior to the initial release of funds on the first year of project implementation, and when there are approved revisions (total project cost, loan cancellation, etc.) either by the DBM or ICC.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects – A financing strategy, broadly defined as a contractual agreement between government and the private sector (a firm) for the latter to finance, design, implement and operate infrastructure facilities traditionally provided by the public sector. Among the elements of PPPs are: a) shared risks and resources; b) value for money; c) outcome orientation; and d) acceleration of infrastructure provision and faster implementation. Such agreement aims for mutual benefits for both the public and the private sector, by initially tapping available private sector funds and expertise, for a faster and more efficient achievement of national development objectives, and with the private sector assured of reasonable returns from its investments.

Total Project Cost – The total amount necessary to implement and complete a project over a given period of time. This is the original project cost per project profile. For FAPs, original project cost shall be consistent with the foreign currency amount as reflected in the approved loan/grant document, including the GOP counterpart. Original project cost for LFPs (costing P1 billion and above) shall be consistent with the amount approved by the ICC.

Unified Accounts Code Structure (UACS) – A harmonized coding structure jointly developed by the DBM, COA, DOF and BTr which aims to facilitate financial reporting and consolidation of actual revenue collection and expenditures, enable the assessment of outcomes against transparency/accountability and improve efficiency in terms of utilization of government funds.