



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

Bangsamoro Government Center, Governor Gutierrez Avenue, Rosary Heights VII, Cotabato City 9600

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 001⁹⁸
Series of 2024

**AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF ONE-TIME ASSISTANCE FOR
BANGSAMORO ECONOMIC (ABE) RELIEF FOR INFLATION FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2024 TO ALL QUALIFIED PERSONNEL REGARDLESS
OF STATUS IN THE BANGSAMORO GOVERNMENT**

WHEREAS, in January 2024, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region recorded a 4.2% inflation rate, consequently reducing the Purchasing Power of Peso¹ within the region to 0.80 in January 2024²;

WHEREAS, one major cause of inflation is the rising prices of food items within the region (5.0% in January 2024³) which is expected to increase due to the increased demand and consumption of food items in the month of Ramadhan;

WHEREAS, while counter-inflationary measures are now being implemented by the Bangsamoro Government, there is an immediate need to grant a one-time inflation relief assistance to the officials and employees of the Bangsamoro Government to mitigate the adverse socio-economic ramifications of inflation in the region;

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2024, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament passed and adopted Resolution No. 515 requesting the grant of inflation relief assistance amounting to at least Ten Thousand Pesos (P 10,000.00) to all employees in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Government of whatever status including persons engaged through contracts of service and job orders by the Ministries, Offices, and Agencies due to the anticipated rise in inflation during the month of Ramadhan 1445; and

WHEREAS, Section 32, Article VII of RA 11054 declares the Chief Minister as head of the Bangsamoro Government who may exercise powers and functions inherent to the office;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, AHOD B. EBRAHIM, Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, by the power vested upon me by law, do hereby order:

¹ **Purchasing Power of Peso** shows how much the peso in the base period is worth in the current period. It is computed as the reciprocal of the CPI for the period under review multiplied by 100.

² **Inflation Rates of BARMM and its Provinces in January 2024**. Philippine Statistics Authority-Regional Statistics Service Office-BARMM. (February 6, 2024)

³ **BARMM Inflation Rates in January 2024**. Philippine Statistics Authority-Regional Statistics Service Office-BARMM. (February 6, 2024)

SECTION 1. Grant of One-time Assistance for Bangsamoro Economic (ABE) Relief for Inflation. Ministries, Offices, and Agencies of the Bangsamoro Government are authorized to grant a one-time Assistance for Bangsamoro Economic (ABE) Relief for inflation for FY 2024 in an amount not exceeding Fifteen Thousand Pesos (P 15,000.00) to each qualified official or employee.

SECTION 2. Coverage. The grant of ABE Relief for Inflation shall cover all qualified officials and employees of the Ministries, Offices, and Agencies in the BARMM with compensation sourced from the General Appropriations Act of the Bangsamoro.

All qualified officials and employees refer to the following:

- a. Officials and personnel who are occupying permanent, temporary, coterminous, casual, or contractual positions; and
- b. Personnel whose services are engaged through Contract of Service (COS) or Job Order (JO), subject to Commission on Audit (COA) and Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Joint Circular (JC) No. 2 (s.2020) or the "Updated Rules and Regulations Governing COS and JO Workers in the Government."

All qualified employees are still in service with the BARMM **as of March 5, 2024.**

For purposes of this Order, actual service shall refer to services rendered on-site, i.e., the COS and JO workers physically report for work at their designated stations.

SECTION 3. Exclusion. Personnel falling under the following cases/circumstances are not entitled to ABE Relief for Inflation FY 2024:

- a. Those who are absent without leave (AWOL); and,
- b. Those who have been hired not as part of the organic manpower of the Ministry/Office/Agency but as consultants or experts to perform specific activities or services with expected output, as well as student laborers and apprentices.

SECTION 4. Funding Source and Release. The ABE Relief for Inflation FY 2024 shall be released under the following conditions:

- 4.1 For officials and employees occupying Regular, Temporary, Coterminous, Casual, or Contractual positions, the amount required for the payment of ABE Relief for Inflation FY 2024 shall be sourced from the available Personnel Services appropriations (whether released or unreleased) of the Ministry, Office and Agency (MOA). In case of deficiency, the amount may be charged against the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Funds (MPBF) subject to the submission of a Special Budget Request (SBR) and

supporting documents to the Ministry of Finance and Budget and Management (MFBM).

4.2 For Contract of Service or Job Order Personnel:

- a. The amount required for the payment of ABE Relief for inflation FY 2024 shall be charged against the MOA's available Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) allotments for the same P/A/P where the compensation of workers engaged through COS and JO are sourced subject to the approval of the Minister or Head of Office/Agency.

All SBRs and reportorial requirements of requests for release of funds must be submitted **on or before March 22, 2024**. Release of the ABE Relief for Inflation 2024 shall be made by the respective Ministries, Offices, and Agencies to the qualified personnel **not later than April 10, 2024**.

SECTION 5. Supplemental Guidelines. The MFBM may issue supplemental guidelines for the effective implementation of this Order.

SECTION 6. Repeal. All orders, rules regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. Separability. If any provision of this Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 8. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the **City of Cotabato** this 11th day of March 2024.



AHOD B. EBRAHIM
Chief Minister

OCM-BARMM AMS-RD
AAA158576



Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER
Records Division - AMS

RELEASED

BY: *Hanan EG*
DATE: *15 MAR 2024*
TIME: *3:28 PM*