

Responsibilities and Duties
of
the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security

1. Background

To promote the unity and efficiency in social development based on serving the public benefit, social equity and justice, the Government had recently reformed the Bureaucratic System and set up the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) by reorganizing and grouping together agencies according to their aims and characteristics. MSDHS is required to be a core ministry responsible for social affairs. It was initially established to be the mechanism of the Government in efficiently implementing social policy and promoting potential in social development for the wealth of Thai society and for the competition in the world stage. MSDHS is comprised of governmental agencies, state enterprises as well as public organization as follows; Department of Public Welfare, National Youth Bureau, Office of the National Commission on Women's Affairs, Department of Community Development (some parts), Department of Accelerated Rural Development (some parts), National Housing Authority, Public Pawnshop Office and Community Organizations Development Institute.

2. Responsibilities

MSDHS has its responsibilities to promote social development and create public equity and social justice. Its operations are to encourage and develop quality of life, social security, family and community institutes as well as other concerned functions as prescribed by the laws to be the duties and authority of MSDHS or agencies under the Ministry.

3. Administrative Structure, Duties and Authorities

3.1 Administrative Structure

- 3.1.1 Office of the Minister (OM)
- 3.1.2 Office of the Permanent Secretary (OPS)
- 3.1.3 Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW)
- 3.1.4 Office of Women's Affairs and Family Development (OWAFD)
- 3.1.5 Office of Children, Youth, the Disadvantaged, Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons (OCYDPO)

3.2 Duties and Authorities

1) **Office of the Minister** has its functions in relation to political matters with a view to support the Minister's conduct of his duties and taking charge of policy coordination with other ministries. It has the following authorities and duties.

- 1.1 Compiling, analyzing data and information as well as proposing recommendations for the Minister's consideration and decision.
- 1.2 Supporting the Minister's political tasks in relation to other Ministers, the Cabinet, the Parliament and the people
- 1.3 Coordinating in replying the inquiries, explanation on motions and on draft Acts and other political issues.
- 1.4 Considering all the petitions, appeals and requests for assistance to the Minister.
- 1.5 Performing other functions as prescribed by the laws to be the duties and authority of the Office of the Minister or entrusted by the Minister or by the Cabinet.

2) **Office of the Permanent Secretary** has its functions in relation to the development of strategies, the translation of MSDHS policies into action plans, the allocation of resources, the development of information and communication technology with a view to reach the goals and achieve results effectively. It has the following authorities and duties.

- 2.1 Developing MSDHS administrative strategies.
- 2.2 Translating policies into guidelines and action plans.
- 2.3 Economically allocating and administrating all MSDHS resources for the best benefit.
- 2.4 Coordinating, monitoring, accelerating and evaluating the operation and implementation of agencies under MSDHS.
- 2.5 Developing information and communications technology systems for serving the administrative work and services of agencies under of the MSDHS.
- 2.6 Coordinating and exchanging international cooperations and mutual assistance as well as integrating policies of social development, social

welfare, and human security in relevance to the international Declarations and Conventions.

- 2.7 Setting standards for social development, social welfare and rights protection.
- 2.8 Studying and analyzing social situation, conducting researches on social development and human security issues as well as social warning systems, social treatment and protection
- 2.9 Supporting the enactment and amendment of the Ministry's laws and regulations and others concerned
- 2.10 Promoting and developing the cooperative networks from all sectors for social development, social welfare and rights protection.
- 2.11 Administrating Social Development and Human Security Fund.
- 2.12 Compiling and analyzing information as well as disseminating and publicizing activities and accomplishments of MSDHS.
- 2.13 Performing other functions as prescribed by the laws to be duties and authority of the Office of the Permanent Secretary or entrusted by the Minister or by the Cabinet.

Under the auspices of the Office of the Permanent Secretary, there are agencies under its central and provincial administrations. As for provincial administration, it has 75 Provincial Social Development and Welfare Offices (PSDWO) in each province. PSDWO has the duties and authority as follows:

- 1. Studying, analyzing and reporting social and economic situations for provincial policy formulation as well as proposing recommendations and solutions.
- 2. Coordinating in making provincial plans, projects and activities on social development and human security issues to be in line with the policies of the Ministry.
- 3. Promoting and coordinating on the operation and activities provision according to the goals and tasks of the Ministry.
- 4. Enhancing cooperation with GOs and NGOs networks at provincial level.
- 5. Promoting and coordinating the provision of services and assistance to people with social problems as well as the referral system to concerned and authorized GOs and NGOs on social welfare.

6. Being provincial information center for social development and human security.

7. Publicizing, disseminating and campaigning for social development and human security activities, MSDHS accomplishments and progress of concerned academic information and data.

8. Cooperating and supporting other concerned agencies or performing functions as entrusted by the Ministry.

3) Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW) has its functions in relation to providing social welfare services and assistance for the disadvantaged, needy people, the destitute, people with social problems. Services provided are in forms of remedial, rehabilitative and developmental models. Additionally, institutional care, communities organization promotion and referral to other concerned agencies are also provided with regards to encouraging target groups to have self-reliance and dignity. DSDW has the following authorities and duties.

3.1 Developing and standardizing models and methods in providing social work and welfare services for various target groups

3.2 Supporting academic and technological information, giving consultation as well as monitoring and evaluating on social development and social welfare provision for concerned agencies and local organizations.

3.3 Providing social welfare services, assistance and prevention for socially distressed people in all target groups and coordinating appropriate agencies for referring.

3.4 Promoting and coordinating the operation of social welfare services networks of each target group and each operational area.

3.5 Promoting and arranging activities according to various special projects, the Royal Initiative Projects and the international cooperative agreements and commitments

3.6 Performing other functions as prescribed by the laws to be the duties and authorities of the Department of Social Development and Welfare or entrusted by the Minister or by the Cabinet.

DSDW also has 12 Technical Promotion and Support Offices (TPSO) in 12 regions under its administration. It has the following authorities and duties.

1. Analyzing and formulating plans for providing services in relation to the target groups and operational areas. Monitoring and Evaluating the operational agencies are also included.

2. Supporting academic knowledge and giving consultation to operational agencies, providing welfare services to all target groups as well as coordinating with local organizations, concerned agencies, NGOs and communities for organizing social development and welfare systems which aim to promote quality of life and sustained self-reliance.

3. Promoting and setting networks system for coordination in operational areas.

4. Cooperating and supporting other concerned agencies or performing functions as entrusted by DSDW.

4) Office for Women's Affairs and Family Development has its functions in relation to development of women potential, promotion of gender equality, empowerment of family institution as well as establishment of social equity and justice. It is in charge of formulating policy and measures to enhance social security for women as well as setting up mechanisms for promoting coordination among concerned GOs and NGOs. It has the following authorities and duties.

4.1 Developing and suggesting guidelines to promote women potential, gender equality and security of family institution.

4.2 Establishing and developing measures and mechanisms to promote women potential, gender equality and security of family institution.

4.3 Enhancing technical knowledge and supporting various resources to carry out the operations of networks which aim to promote women potential, gender equality and security of family institution.

4.4 Promoting cooperation in relevance to the international agreements and commitments.

4.5 Promoting coordination for women rights protection according to the laws.

4.6 Conducting researches to develop body of knowledge for promoting women potential, gender equality and security of family institution.

4.7 Establishing standards, monitoring and evaluating the implementation according to policies and measures.

4.8 Coordinating information systems for the promotion of women potential, gender equality and security of family institution..

4.9 Performing other functions as prescribed by the laws to be duties and authorities of the Office of Women's Affairs and Family Development or entrusted by the Minister or by the Cabinet.

5) Office of Children, Youth the Disadvantaged, Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons has its functions in relation to protecting rights and promoting potential of various target groups. It is in charge of formulating policy, measures and mechanisms for developing security and quality of life of the target groups as well as supporting coordination among concerned GOs and NGOs. It has the following authorities and duties.

5.1 Suggesting guidelines for protecting rights and promoting potential of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons.

5.2 Establishing and developing measures and mechanisms for protecting rights and promoting potential of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons.

5.3 Enhancing technical knowledge and supporting various resources for the operations of networks which aim to legally protect rights and promote potential of the target groups.

5.4 Establishing and developing standards to protect rights and promote potential of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons as well as enhancing international cooperation in relevance to the world changes, the international agreements and commitments.

5.5 Promoting activities to develop potential and social roles of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons.

5.6 Developing body of knowledge for protecting rights and promoting potential of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons.

5.7 Coordinating and supporting information and data for protecting rights and promoting potential of children, youth, the disadvantaged, persons with disabilities and older persons.

5.8 Performing other functions as prescribed by the laws to be duties and authorities of the Office of Children, Youths, the Disadvantaged, Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons or entrusted by the Minister or by the Cabinet.
