

- 6.4 The enactment of a legislative bill providing incentives and allocation for a program of mass housing.
 - 6.5 A general moratorium on demolitions while a comprehensive urban development program is being prepared.
 - 6.6 Representation at all levels in government agencies concerned with urban poor issues including provincial and municipal legislative bodies.
 - 6.7 Channel part of tax revenues for increased social services.
 - 6.8 Provide for free basic education, health services, housing, subsidies, and other basic social services for lower income groups.
7. Industrialization and the National Economy.
- 7.1 The underlying principle is that of a mixed economy where government grants the private sector a more decisive role without abdicating its responsibility for establishing the economic basis for recovery and long-term development.
 - 7.2 Redistribution of income and wealth to create a dynamic domestic market through legislation on progressive taxation, increased social services to disadvantaged groups, agrarian reform, and labor policies that will not allow real wages to deteriorate as labor productivity rises.
 - 7.3 Strict regulation and control over the operations of transnational corporations particularly in payments of royalties and franchises, domestic credit borrowings, and profit remittances. Anti-trust and anti-monopoly policies should be strictly implemented.
 - 7.4 Legislation on incentives and sanctions to encourage labor intensive and light industries that promote employment, require less financing, produce high value-added goods, are not labor displacing, and establish forward and backward linkages between industry and agriculture. A program for regional dispersal of industries should also be included. The underlying principle is a balanced agro-industrial policy.
 - 7.5 Formulation of a state plan that will define the economic areas where foreign investments may be allowed and encouraged but only under terms and conditions that will be beneficial to our economic growth and are not harmful to Filipino industries.
 - 7.6 Government regulation of vital social services such as health, education, and welfare and the production and distribution of public goods. For essential consumer and producer goods, some amount of indicative planning is necessary. For all non-essential consumer industries, the market should operate unencumbered by government intervention.

Congress for a People's Agrarian Reform (CPAR)

Declaration of Principles

(May 31, 1987, Quezon City)

The agrarian problem lies at the root of the Philippine economic and social crisis. A key solution to this crisis is a genuine and comprehensive agrarian reform program.

The core principle in agrarian reform is the primacy of the right of all members of the agricultural labor force who do not own land, near-landless farmers, farmworkers, small fisherfolk and other direct producers to own and control the land, have full access to other natural resources and gain full disposition over the produce.

Agrarian reform addresses six major issues, namely, (1) social injustice and inequality; (2) low productivity; (3) lack of control by the rural masses over their lives and destiny; (4) under-industrialization; (5) environmental breakdown; and, (6) foreign domination.

Therefore, the people's agrarian reform program will aim first of all, to transfer landed wealth and power over the land and its produce to the actual tillers. Unjust concepts of private land ownership have led to the concentration of land in the

hands of a few. Second, it aims to free and develop the productive powers of agrarian workers, farmers, and fishermen from the forces that deprive them of resources and initiative.

Thirdly, the program intends to develop the mechanisms for people empowerment by creating autonomous decision-making bodies of the rural masses. Fourthly, it is designed to promote nationalist industrialization by widening the national market, rechanneling the agricultural surplus into industrial investments and labor for industrial development, and the establishment of self-sufficient local industries controlled by the rural masses. Next, it intends to conserve the natural environment so that it may serve the short and long-term needs of the Filipino people. Lastly, the people's program will do away with foreign control over natural resources.

The general principles that follow outline the basic concepts underlying the major components of the people's agrarian reform program.

I. Coverage

Agrarian reform as a redistribution program must cover the following:

1. All agricultural lands regardless of crop planted, existing tenurial forms, or farm size;
2. All arable public lands including logging, mining, pasture areas, and newly-opened and reclaimed areas subject to prior rights of indigenous communities and ecological concerns; and,
3. All lands that are idle and abandoned, foreclosed, sequestered, church-owned, plantations, and haciendas.
4. All water resources including inland, coastal and offshore fishing areas.

In terms of beneficiaries, the program should include all members of the agricultural labor force who do not own lands, are near landless, small fishermen, and other direct producers who are deprived of access to and control over other natural resources.

II. Retention Rights

The guiding concept underlying any retention rule is that of *owner-cultivatorship*. Corollary to this, the abolition of absentee landownership and proprietorship must be carried out thoroughly.

III. Compensation

The granting of full compensation for all types of landowners goes against the intent of agrarian reform to redistribute wealth and resolve the issue of social inequality. A system of selective and progressive compensation must be instituted based on farm size, mode of acquisition, and other relevant factors.

IV. The Transfer of Land to Beneficiaries

As a rule, the terms and conditions under which the land is to be transferred must not be made burdensome for the beneficiaries so as not to defeat the goal of turning them into viable producers. Thus, all previous land rentals as well as uncompensated labor must be considered as advance payments for the land.

Uncompensated labor may be defined as the difference between workers' actual wages on one hand and, the government mandated minimum wage or the minimum required subsistence income whenever it is applicable. Provisions for homelots for all types of beneficiaries must also be included.

V. The Organization of People's Agrarian Reform Councils

The People's Agrarian Reform Councils (PARCs) are autonomous bodies mandated by reform beneficiaries to ensure the formulation and implementation of agrarian reform policy. The PARC will be composed exclusively of representatives of farmers, farmworkers, fishermen, and other direct producers.

The Councils will be formed from the village up to the national level. Village councils will be constituted by direct election with the next higher councils to be chosen by representatives from the lower councils

VI. Cooperatives and Collective Farms

An integral part of the people's agrarian reform program is the preferential option for cooperatives and collective farms in the production, marketing, and credit levels wherever and whenever feasible. This will conform to the objectives of promoting equity, productivity, people empowerment, and nationalist industrialization.

VII. Support Services

In order to lay the conditions that will assure the provision of timely, adequate, and appropriate services for agrarian reform beneficiaries, all government departments and agencies whose work is crucial to the success of the agrarian program must be reoriented in both their policies and programs and reorganized towards emphasizing the central role and overriding role of agrarian reform in their activities.

Support services include infrastructure, credit, marketing, price supports, training and education, and appropriate and ecologically sound technology.

VIII. Special Concerns

1. *Rural women.* All women members of the agricultural labor force must be guaranteed and assured equal rights to ownership of land, equal shares of the farm's pro-