

**JOINT DECLARATION OF THE JUSTICE SECTOR
AGENCIES IN SUPPORT OF THE
EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

Guiding Principle. While it is recognized that the institutions that comprise the justice sector are independent and have their respective mandates, the justice sector operates in an environment where there is an interdependence of functions and a wide range of shared interests crucial to the effective and efficient administration of justice.

Approach. In recognition of this guiding principle, a coordinated approach to justice sector policy making, planning, and operations is essential to provide for a coherent and effective sectoral approach to the administration of justice.

Composition. The justice sector institutions are committed to working together and have agreed to establish a Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC), composed of senior representatives from the Judiciary, Department of Justice, Department of the Interior and Local Government and their relevant attached agencies.

Functions. The JSCC shall serve as a joint forum for dialogue on issues of common interest and mechanism for effective coordination and sharing of information in support of planning and implementation of joint initiatives.

Implementation Arrangements. Recognizing that the JSCC functions involve policy and institutional coordination, the principals acknowledge the importance of their presence and participation in the meetings and also agree to designate key officials involved in policy implementation to attend on their absence.


The JSCC shall identify priority issues and challenges that may be collectively addressed and shall meet on a regular monthly basis.

The JSCC will be assisted by a Secretariat whose main function is to provide technical and logistical support to the JSCC.

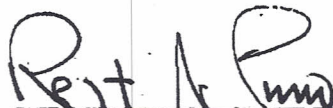
Signed in Manila on 30 April 2010:



HON. ALBERTO C. AGRA
Secretary
Department of Justice



HON. RONALDO V. PUNO
Secretary
Department of the Interior and
Local Government



HON. REYNATO S. PUNO
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of the Philippines