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MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO : ALL REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT : LIFTING OF THE DECEMBER 08, 2004 SUSPENSION OF TIMBER HARVESTING IN REGIONS 11 AND 13

DATE : March 7, 2005

After careful review/evaluation of the existing forest management policies and the strong clamor of the various stakeholders, the suspension of timber harvesting in Regions Eleven (11) and Thirteen (CARAGA) is hereby lifted.

The December 08, 2004 Suspension Order, as clarified by the December 14, 2004 Memorandum, shall continue to take effect in all other regions nationwide, pending the completion of the thorough review/evaluation of forest tenure instruments.

In view hereof, the REDs of Region 11 and 13 are hereby instructed to thoroughly review existing Operations Plan (OP/IAOP) in their respective regions and submit to the Undersigned, through the Undersecretary for Environment and Forestry, within fifteen (15) days from the date of this Memorandum, for approval. Only those tenure instruments without violations shall be allowed to operate.

We will hold you and your concerned personnel responsible for any misrepresentation/infraction committed in the conduct of the review/evaluation and in the submission of the reports.

FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE.

MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR

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