

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

Special Commissariat for
Civic Action.

Republic of Viet-Nam

Planning Bureau.

WHAT IS CIVIC ACTION.

I. Purpose.

In order to be democratic a government has to base on the People for all steps taken which means that all works done in the country are for the People, every legitimate aspirations of the People should be taken into consideration and on the contrary the People must understand and carry out the Government's policy and directives.

To reach this goal the Government should organize the Administrative apparatus in such a way that all works would be understood at all levels.

Due to such a well conception of Democracy and furthermore due to the understanding of unbearable sufferings of the People after 10 years of disastrous war, President Ngô right after his coming up to power, planned to set up a well-defined Technical and Administrative system throughout all levels:

- Improving the People's living standard.
- Rebuilding the country purposely and cruelly destroyed by the Viet-Công.

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By fully carrying out the above policy, various Technical Departments have endeavoured to bring to the countryside the presence of the Government. The Administrative officials at all levels have well consolidated their ranks and had positively changed the old way of working in order to be closer to the People.

These outstanding efforts have been realized in the countryside by Technical and Administrative Organizations having a new form and way of working.

However, no matter how much efforts having been put on, the Government have encountered many obstacles and here are the two **basic** problems:

The first one is that of Personnels. The National budget is still in the consolidating period, therefore the selectioning of additional cadres cannot be realized. In order to provide the Technical Departments a solid system from the Central down to the village levels. A very important point for serving the People. The number of assistants will require a great sum of money which cannot be afforded by the economy.

The second problem is that of technics. The devastating situation in the countryside and the unbearable misery of the People require an immediate

help. This urgency does not give the Government enough time to train carefully the number of experts required by various departments on the new technics and working methods.

These 2 problems had hampered the progress of the Government in its "Serving the People" policy.

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Before this critical situation which has to be solved, President Ngô has the initiative of proposing a transitory solution in one hand for serving the People and in the other for winning time and means for the Departments to set up a clear and solid system from the Central down to the village levels.

This solution is CIVIC ACTION.

Due to the above reasons Civic Action has been established and is an organization aiming at:

- representing Technical Departments while these latter do not have enough experts in order to realize the Departments' programs to improve the People's living standard and to rebuild the countryside.

The Civic Action Organization should be a mobile one, going from one locality to the other in order to largely satisfy the needs of the People although the number of the personnel is small.

Civic Action Cadres must be jacks of all trades and be specialized in all aspects, in order to be able to carry out the Department's programs when needed.

II. Duties.

Aiming at the aforesaid goal, Civic Action has the duty:

1) Regarding the Technical Departments.

to realize all programs confided by various Departments with a close coordination between them

2) Regarding the Administrative levels.

to carry out the programs of various departments within the Administrative france according to the needs as presented by the concerned local representatives.

3) Regarding the People.

- To be close to the People
- To guide the People
- To work for the People's interest

- To give the People good examples.

In order to carry out the above-mentioned duties and to realize them with the organization's nature Civic Action cadres must be progressive elements who are able to undergo sacrifice. In brief, they must be soldiers struggling for the Right Cause and freed themselves out of the formalities and limits of an ordinary public servant.