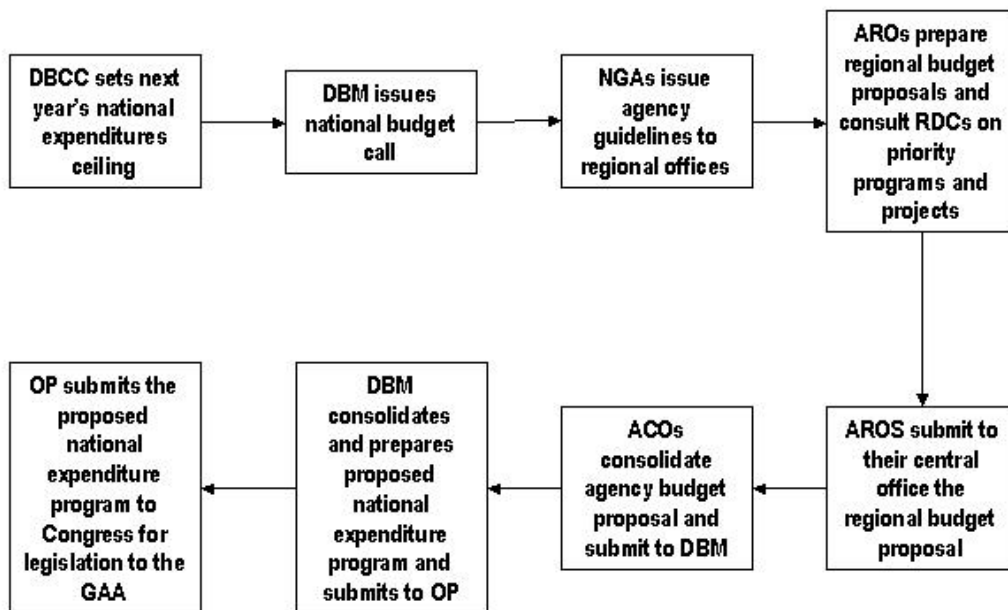


## Legislating the General Appropriations Act

- **The General Appropriations Act (GAA)** is one of the most important legislations that Congress annually passes.
- **It** defines the annual expenditure program of the national government and all of its instrumentalities. The expenditure program includes all programs and projects that are supposed to be funded out of government funds for the year.
- **The process** does not start with Congress but as provided in the Constitution, the national expenditure program must emanate from the Office of the President.
- **The main actors that assist the President on this function are:** Development Budget coordinating committee, Department of Budget and Management, the Regional Development Councils, and all agencies and offices of national government.
- **The process starts** with the issuance by the DBCC of the national expenditure ceiling for the succeeding year.
- **Once the DBM receives this,** it issues the national budget call that provides the general guidelines to be followed by the agencies in preparing their budget proposal
- **The respective agencies** then issue their agency guidelines for their regional offices and directs them to prepare their respective regional budget proposals
- **The agency Regional Offices** prepare their budget proposals and consult their respective local government counterparts and the regional development council on the priority programs and projects to be funded for the succeeding year's general appropriations.
- The importance of CBMS and any other information database is in the identification of the region or local-specific programs and projects that shall be funded out of the GAA
- The concerned legislator may participate more effectively even at the regional level preparation and consultations if they have a better grasp of the conditions as shown by up to date information such as the CBMS

## Milestones of the National Government Budget preparation process



DBCC – Development Budget Coordinating Committee

DBM – Department of Budget and Management

NGA – National Government Agency

ACO/ARO – Agency Central/Regional Office

OP – Office of the President

### Notes:

#### Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC)

The DBCC is composed of the Secretary of Budget and Management, as chairman; the Director-General of the NEDA Secretariat, as co-chairman; and the Executive Secretary, Secretary of Finance and the Governor of the Central Bank of the Philippines, as members. The DBCC recommends to the President the following:

Level of annual government expenditures and the ceiling of government spending for economic and social development, national defense, and government debt service;

Proper allocation of expenditures for each development activity between current operating expenditures and capital outlays; and;

Amount set to be allocated for capital outlays broken down into the various capital or infrastructure projects.

