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PLANNING FOR WAWASAN 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Most government planning is about the macro-economic planning. This paper, while also touches on the macro-economic planning, will give a recommendation for the individual and family to plan for Wawasan 2020 through the Community Education Program.

The paper begins with the definitions and meanings of "planning" and "Wawasan 2020", then the section on the Holistic Approach of Development and Wawasan 2020 enumerating who are the "players" (actors) of Wawasan 2020 giving the concept of the total, integrated and balanced development; the Strategic Management Model of Wawasan 2020 follows showing that an effective planning (and then implementation) of the individual, his family, a corporate entity and the government planning for Wawasan 2020 in this strategic planning approach: the government and private sector followed by the rakyat planning for Wawasan 2020; and the paper is closed with the problems of planning and a conclusion that it is both desirable and feasible for an individual and family to successfully plan for Wawasan 2020.

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DEFINITION OF PLANNING

Alice said, "Would you please tell which way to go from here?" The cat said, "That depends on where you want to go to".

Lewis Carol

Planning. Doing things today to make us better tomorrow. Because the future belongs to those who make the hard decisions today.

Eaton Corporation

If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it.

Abraham Lincoln

Planning is the exercise of intelligence to deal with facts and situations as they are and find a way to solve problems.

Jawahariral Nehru

With reference to administration and management, Dror² defines planning as follows: "Planning is the process of preparing a set of decisions for action in the future directed at achieving goals by optimal means". This definition gives three implications of planning:-

- a. Planning is a continuous process taking place within an organizational unit and requiring resources to do so. As a process it is to be distinguished from its product, i.e. a "plan".
- b. A "plan" defined as "a set of decisions for action in the future", can be arrived at by any means whatsoever. It need not be the product of planning.
- c. "Achieving goals by optimal means" implies that the planning process must not only take into account the decisions which result from the planning, but also the resources that went into the planning.

Planning Documents

Planning also implies preparing a set of documents: Albert³ suggests at least three are desirable:-

- a. Options documents which describe possible broad policy approaches, not yet constrained by feasibility and budgetary considerations containing imaginative and far-out ideas not yet screened by those who must implement whatever plans are accepted.
- b. Documents which restrict the range of alternatives to those that the operating and staff offices consider feasible and desirable.
- c. A final set of plans with the top decision maker's endorsement.

Stages in Planning

Planning involves two stages:-

- a. An analytic or problem solving stage; and
- b. A scheduling stage.

The first stage i.e. to solve the planning problem requires two stages:-

- (i) A specification of mission statement, objectives or goals.
- (ii) Finding satisfactory or acceptable programmes for achieving these objectives or goals.

The second stage is to prepare a plan of operation based on the solution.