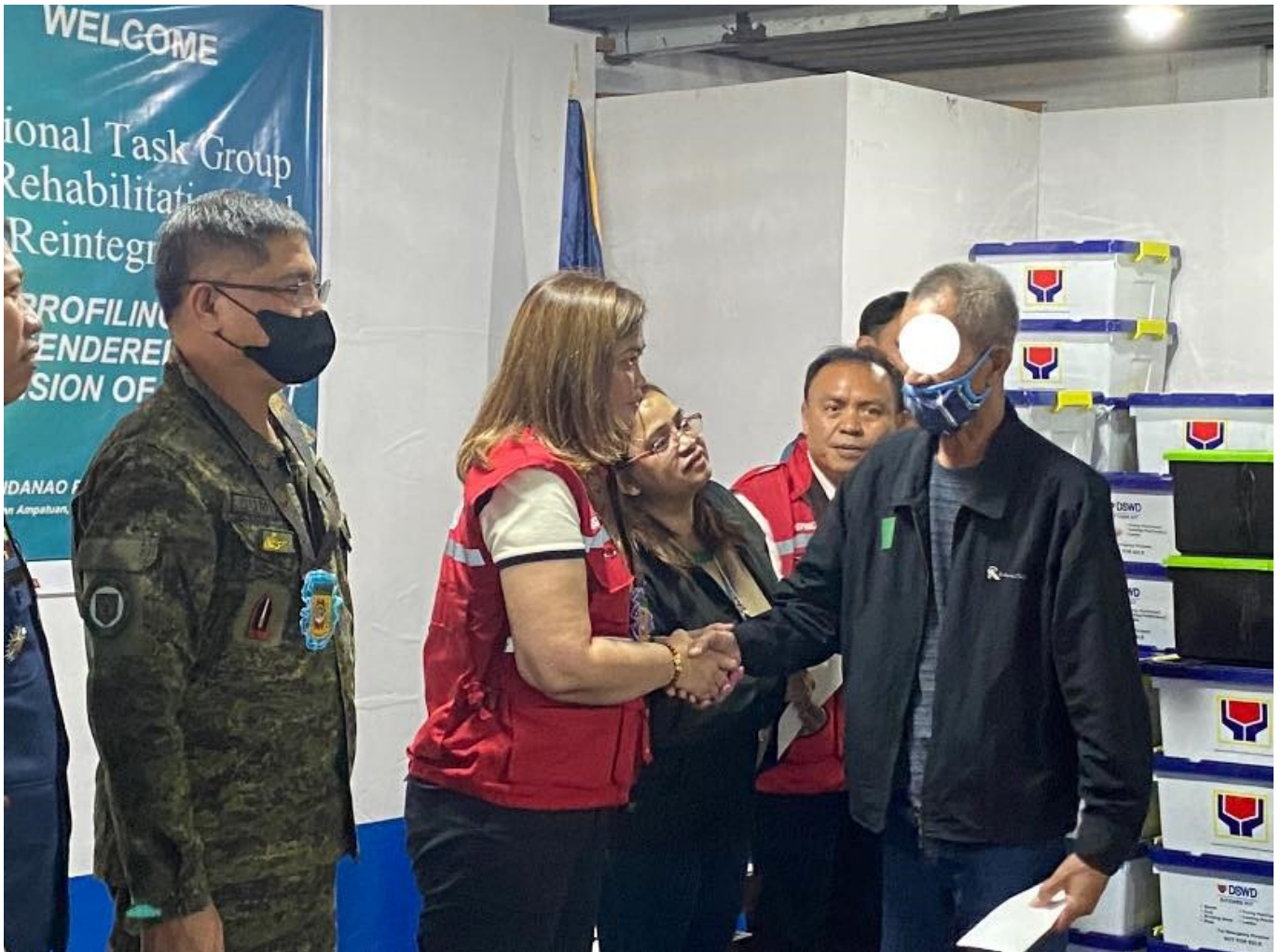


DSWD provides aid to former private armed group members



Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Assistant Secretary Dianne Rose Cajipe hands over the Department's financial assistance to a former private armed group member in Camp Datu Akilan Ampatuan, Brgy. Poblacion Mother, Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao, on Monday, January 30.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) provided social protection services to surrendered private armed group members (PAGs) in Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao on Monday, January 30.

The DSWD, in coordination with the Maguindanao Police Provincial Office, distributed family food packs (FFPs) and non-food items composed of family kits, kitchen kits, and sleeping kits to each of the 61 surrenderees from disbanded

PAGs. They also received financial support worth P10,000 each, under the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS).

The activity was spearheaded by DSWD Assistant Secretary Dianne Rose Cajipe and the DSWD Field Office (FO) XII, led by DSWD XII Assistant Regional Director Bonifacio Selma Jr. Also present in the event were DSWD Undersecretary Alan Tanjusa and Disaster Response Management Bureau Director Michael Cristopher Mathay.

The DSWD chairs the National Task Group on Rehabilitation and Reintegration (NTG-RnR), one of the task groups of the National Task Force for the Disbandment of Private Armed Groups (NTF-DPAGs), which is responsible in providing socio-economic programs and services for surrendered PAGs and their families.

Through its participation in the task force, the Department pledged to support various government initiatives to achieve just and lasting peace, and inclusive development in the country. ###