

SUPREME DECREE No. 0066

EVO MORALES AYMA

PRESIDENT OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA

CONSIDERING:

That Article 9 of the Political Constitution of the State establishes that one of the essential purposes and functions of the State is to guarantee the well-being, development, security, protection, and equal dignity of individuals, nations, peoples, and communities, and to promote mutual respect and intracultural, intercultural, and multilingual dialogue.

That Article 16 of the Political Constitution of the State establishes that the State has the obligation to guarantee food security through healthy, adequate, and sufficient food for the entire population.

That Article 18 of the Political Constitution of the State establishes that all persons have the right to health, and that the State guarantees the inclusion and access to health for all persons, without exclusion or discrimination of any kind.

That Article 45, paragraph V, of the Political Constitution of the State establishes that women have the right to safe motherhood, with an intercultural vision and practice; they shall enjoy special assistance and protection from the State during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the prenatal and postnatal periods.

That the Political Constitution of the State, in Article 59, paragraph I, establishes that every child and adolescent has the right to comprehensive development.

That the Political Constitution of the State, in Article 306, paragraph V, establishes that the State values human beings above all else and will ensure the equitable redistribution of economic surpluses in social, health, education, and cultural policies, as well as reinvestment in productive economic development.

Supreme Decree No. 29272 of September 12, 2007, approves the National Development Plan 2006–2010 with its pillars: A dignified, sovereign, productive, and democratic Bolivia for living well, with the aim of promoting comprehensive development through the construction of a new model of diversified and comprehensive development and the eradication of poverty, social inequality, and exclusion.

Approximately 74% of the national population is not covered by short-term social security, with this percentage being higher in rural areas, mainly affecting women and children. This is evidenced by the high rates of maternal and infant mortality and in the incidence of chronic malnutrition in the population under two years of age, which in turn restrict the possibilities of overcoming the exclusion and intergenerational poverty in which this population finds itself.

As part of the social policies for income redistribution being implemented by the State, it is appropriate to incorporate a policy aimed at guaranteeing the exercise of the fundamental right to life and health, with the enforcement of women's right to safe motherhood, as well as the inherent right of every girl and boy to comprehensive development and the satisfaction of their needs, interests, and aspirations enshrined in the Political Constitution of the State, contributing to the reduction of mortality among pregnant women and chronic malnutrition among children under two years of age.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DECREES:

ARTICLE 1.- (PURPOSE). The purpose of this Supreme Decree is:

I. Establish incentives for safe motherhood and the comprehensive development of children aged zero to two years through the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus, within the framework of the National Development Plan and policies to eradicate extreme poverty.

II. Establish the institutional framework and financial mechanisms for its delivery.

ARTICLE 2.- (PURPOSE). Within the framework of the Zero Malnutrition Program and policies to eradicate extreme poverty, the purpose of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus is to enforce the fundamental rights of access to health and comprehensive development enshrined in the Political Constitution of the State, in order to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and chronic malnutrition among children under the age of two.

ARTICLE 3.- (IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALLOWANCE).

I. The Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus is established as an incentive for mothers to use health services during pregnancy and childbirth, as well as to comply with comprehensive monitoring, growth, and development protocols for children from birth until they reach two years of age.

II. The Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus will be paid as follows:

Pregnant women and women in the postnatal period:

1st prenatal checkup
Bs50.-2nd prenatal
checkup Bs50.-3rd
prenatal checkup Bs50.-4th
prenatal checkup Bs50.-
Institutional delivery
plus postnatal checkup Bs120

Children under 2 years of age:

12 comprehensive bi-monthly health
checkups, each for Bs125.

For a total of up to Bs1,820.- (ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND TWENTY 00/100 BOLIVIANOS) over a period of 33 months.

III. In all cases, payments will be made after verification of compliance with the controls.

IV. Payments related to comprehensive bimonthly health checks for children may be made to the mother and, in exceptional cases, to duly accredited payment recipients.

V. In the fifth year of implementation of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus, an evaluation of the results achieved at the municipal level will be carried out for the purpose of supplementing or modifying the program.

ARTICLE 4.- (PAYMENT OF THE "JUANA AZURDUY" MOTHER-CHILD BONUS). The Ministry of Health and Sports:

I. shall make the payment of the "Juana Azurduy" Mother and Child Bonus to beneficiaries through agreements or contracts with public or private entities.

II. It shall create an Executive Unit for the implementation of the payment of the "Juana Azurduy" Mother and Child Bonus and shall guarantee the infrastructure, equipment, and financing necessary for its operation. To this end, the administrative and operational aspects shall be regulated by Ministerial Resolution.

ARTICLE 5.- (BENEFICIARIES).

I. The beneficiaries of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus are, upon voluntary registration and verification of their documentation:

a) Women during pregnancy and postpartum.

b) All children under one year of age at the time of registration, until they reach two years of age.

II. Pregnant women and children under two years of age who are beneficiaries of short-term social security will not receive the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus.

ARTICLE 6.- (INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK).

a) The Ministry of Health and Sports is responsible for the administration and payment of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus.

- b) The Departmental Health Services will provide the health services required for the implementation of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus in the corresponding departmental territory.
- c) Municipal governments will participate in the enrollment of beneficiaries and the implementation of the health services required in the municipal territorial jurisdiction.
- d) Mobile health networks and teams are responsible for providing comprehensive health care services, verifying compliance with controls, and providing the relevant information in accordance with the regulations to be established.
- e) The Ministries of Health and Sports and Development Planning are responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Voucher at the departmental and municipal levels, as well as with the relevant public entities. These aspects will be defined through joint ministerial resolutions.
- f) In cases where similar programs or projects are already in operation, ministries shall establish agreements with their implementers in order to avoid duplication of benefits.
- g) The Ministry of Development Planning shall conduct annual evaluations of the implementation and impact of the Juana Azurduy Mother-Child Bonus and its impact on the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the policies for the eradication of extreme poverty and the National Development Plan.
- h) Likewise, the Ministry shall coordinate this benefit with the set of programs for the eradication of extreme poverty.
- i) The Ministry of Economy and Finance shall make the necessary budgetary entries and transfers for the implementation of the provisions of this Supreme Decree.

ARTICLE 7.- (FINANCING).

I. The "Juana Azurduy" Mother-Child Bonus shall be financed with resources from:

- a) General Treasury of the Nation, according to availability.
- b) External and internal donations and loans.
- c) Transfers from public and private entities and institutions.

II. Additionally, the Ministry of Health and Sports may enter into co-financing agreements with prefectures and municipal governments.

FINAL PROVISIONS

FIRST FINAL PROVISION. May 27, 2009, is established as the start date for payment of the "Juana Azurduy" Mother and Child Bonus.

SECOND FINAL PROVISION. The start date for the registration of beneficiaries shall be established in the regulations to be approved by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

Children who turn one year old during the period between the date of publication of this Supreme Decree and the start date of registration will be considered beneficiaries of the Juana Azurduy Mother and Child Bonus.

The Ministers of State, in the Offices of Development Planning, Health and Sports, and Economy and Public Finance, are responsible for the execution and enforcement of this Supreme Decree.

Given at Lake Titicaca, on the third day of April of the year two thousand and nine.

SIGNED: EVO MORALES AYMA, David Choquehuanca Céspedes, Juan Ramón Quintana Taborga, Nardy Suxo Iturry, Carlos Romero Bonifaz, Alfredo Octavio Rada Vélez, Walker Sixto San Miguel Rodríguez, Hector E. Arce Zaconeta, Noel Ricardo Aguirre Ledezma, Luis Alberto Arce Catacora, Oscar Coca Antezana, Patricia A. Ballivián Estenssoro, Walter Juvenal Delgadillo Terceros, Luis Alberto Echazú Alvarado, Celima Torrico Rojas, Calixto Chipana Callizaya, Jorge Ramiro Tapia Sainz, René Gonzalo Orellana Halkyer, Roberto Iván Aguilar Gómez, Julia D. Ramos Sánchez, Pablo César Groux Canedo.