

# [ LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 521, March 22, 1977 ]

TO: The National Economic and Development Authority  
The Department of Trade  
The Department of Labor  
The Department of Education and Culture  
The Department of Agriculture  
The Department of Natural Resources  
The Central Bank of the Philippines  
The National Census and Statistics Office  
The National Grains Authority  
The Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources  
The Bureau of Forest Development, and all Departments,  
Bureaus, Offices, Agencies and Government Instrumentalities,  
including government-owned and controlled corporations involved  
in the statistical activities of the Government.

WHEREAS, the Statistical Coordination Committee has been encountering problems of statistical coordination namely: unnecessary duplication of statistical activities by government agencies; existence of data gaps; data collection problems; unorganized statistical units in many government agencies; inadequate financial and manpower resources; and other problems of coordination;

WHEREAS, improvements and innovations adopted in the present government statistical system leave much to be desired toward the attainment of an ideal Philippine Statistical System; and

WHEREAS, there is a necessity of coordinating and integrating the statistical activities of all government agencies in order to improve their statistical capabilities in generating statistical data and information for planning exercises, policy formation and decision-making and for measuring progress and the impacts of government plans and projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby direct the following:

1. Full support by department secretaries and National/regional heads to:
  - a. Integrated Household Surveys;
  - b. Integrated Establishment Surveys;
  - c. All other surveys that call for integration.
2. All new large-scale surveys with a sample size of 500 or more to be done by government agencies may be reviewed by NEDA on a *post factum* basis.
3. The universal adoption of prescribed standards and classification systems by government agencies.
4. The NEDA and the Budget Commission should pursue vigorously its proposed tie-up in the budget review progress so that they could institutionalized a more effective system of resource (budget) allocation for statistical activities.
5. The rationalization of the growth and development of computer based information systems, e.g. data banks/management information systems, among department by the National Computer Center.