

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 941, May 29, 1976 ]

## **CREATING THE PHILIPPINE EXPORT COUNCIL, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

**WHEREAS**, national economic growth demands a sustained contribution in foreign exchange generation by the ex-port sector;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to develop and implement a national export strategy designed to achieve a significant increase in export earnings;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to establish a mechanism for the direct and continuing involvement of the private sector in the formulation and implementation of the government export strategy;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to establish an institution to serve as the focal point for government and private sector, cooperation in the promotion of Philippine products:

**WHEREAS**, the effective implementation of an export promotion strategy requires that such an institution be capable of flexible and dynamic action and be vested with appropriate authority to operate under a high degree of autonomy;

**WHEREAS**, such an institution will provide the mechanism to compete with other countries which have adopted similar institutions designed to optimize their export strategy through encouraging and stimulating joint government and private action for export expansion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree the following, to form part of the laws of the land:

**SECTION 1.**—*Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared to be the policy of the government to encourage promote, expand and diversify exports to existing and prospective markets in order to generate employment and income, improve the balance of payments, and hasten the economic development of the nation.

It is further declared to be the policy of government to encourage and support private sector producers and traders in the promotion of Philippine commodities and products in international markets and; based on national economic policies and consistent with fiscal policy, to maximize direct private sector participation in the implementation of government export assistance.

**SEC. 2.**—*Creation of the Philippines Export Council.* There is hereby created the Philippine Export Council, hereinafter called the Export Council, which shall be responsible for the formulation and the monitoring of the national export strategy; for recommending to the President policy measures pertaining to export expansion and devising plans and programs of action; and for the coordination of government and private sector efforts to develop, promote, and enhance earnings from commodities and products of export.

The Export Council shall be directly under the Office of the President.

**SEC. 3.**—*Responsibilities of the Council.* The Export Council shall prepare a national export strategy which shall include an identification of performance targets

consistent with existing economic policies and as embodied in the approved national development plan. The Export Council shall monitor and report to the President periodically including an annual report on the implementation of the national export strategy. It shall undertake or cause to be undertaken by appropriate agencies or organizations such research, developmental and promotional activities as are necessary in support of the policy denned in this decree but shall not engage directly in trade or selling.

**SEC. 4.—*Powers and Functions of the Export Council.*** The powers, functions, and duties of the Export Council established under the provisions of this decree shall include the following:

- a. To develop a national export strategy to be approved by the President of the Philippines that is based on national economic policies and which reflects both immediate and medium-term objectives defined by specified performance targets;
- b. As a component of the national export strategy, to develop annual, medium-term, and long-range programs of developmental and promotional activities designed to achieve the objectives of the national export strategy, taking into account the production capacity of Philippine industries and the opportunities present in export markets;
- c. To recommend to the President, the assignment to other government, semi-government and private institutions functions and responsibilities denned in the approved national export strategy; to determine and recommend for approval budget allocations required to fund such assigned functions and responsibilities in order to assure the successful implementation of approved programs of action;
- d. To study and recommend specific government assistance measures that will encourage increased production and will enable exportable commodities to become more competitive in international markets;
- e. To identify obstacles to the export of specific products and commodities in world markets, and to recommend appropriate measures for the removal of these obstacles;
- f. To assist producers, exporters, and government agencies including export and industry authorities, government and private trading organizations, and Philippine missions abroad in the promotion of Philippine products and commodities;
- g. To assess policies and programs of government agencies and private sector organizations engaged or involved in activities allied to or affecting Philippine international trade, such as forwarding, brokerage, shipping, insurance, warehousing, financing; and to recommend or adopt measures to improve their contribution to increasing competitiveness of Philippine exports in world markets;
- h. To encourage the organization of cooperative trading organizations and other forms of joint export marketing by producers/exporters to attain increased leverage in international marketing;
- i. To undertake or cause to be undertaken any other activities essential to the achievement of the objectives and intent of this decree; and
- j. To exercise such other powers and undertake such other functions as may be assigned to the Export Council by the President of the Philippines.

**SEC. 5.—*Governing Council.*** The powers and functions of the Export Council shall be exercised by a Governing Council which shall be composed of the following: