

[**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 604, December 10, 1974**]

INTEGRATING NATIONWIDE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, PHYSICAL FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the government recognizes the need for the development of youth as an integral part of the national development policy;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to further examine, clarify, and delineate the areas where there should be increased participation of the youth;

WHEREAS, the government recognizes the vital role of physical fitness and amateur sports programs in the development of a healthy and alert citizenry for national progress;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to intensify a physical fitness and recreation program for the population at all ages and at levels of the community in order to serve as a strong foundation for the inculcation of national discipline; and

WHEREAS, there is a recognized need to adopt an integrated approach in the physical fitness and amateur sports programs involving all sectors of the citizenry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree, as part of the law of the land, the creation and establishment of the Department of Youth and Sports Development.

SECTION 1. *Creation of a Department of Youth and Sports Development.* — There is hereby created a Department of Youth and Sports Development, hereinafter referred to as the Department, which shall, among others, formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs on youth development, physical fitness, and sports development.

SEC. 2. *Authority and Responsibility.* — The authority and responsibility for the exercise of the powers and the discharge of the functions of the Department shall be vested in a Secretary of Youth and Sports Development, hereinafter referred to as the Secretary. He shall be assisted by one Undersecretary: *Provided, however,* That the Department may have more than one Undersecretary, if necessary.

The primary responsibility, however, for youth activities in school shall remain vested with Department of Education; for Citizens Army Training, Reserve Officers Training Corps, and Summer Cadres with the Department of National Defense; for skills development for gainful employment with the Department of Labor and the National Manpower and Youth Council; and for activities of disadvantaged youth with the Department of Social Welfare.

SEC. 3. *Functions.* — The Department shall be responsible for the following functions:

1. Conduct basic and applied research on youth development;

2. Encourage, initiate, and establish youth organizations to promote and develop youth activities open to persons eleven years and above, and administer where necessary such newly established organizations, subject to requirements of national security;
3. Coordinate with the Department of Education and Culture, the Department of National Defense, the Department of Labor, the National Manpower and Youth Council, and the Department of Social Welfare various allied youth activities as mentioned in Section 2;
4. Establish, by mutual agreement and in continuing consultation with the Department of National Defense, such guidelines as may permit community service as an acceptable substitute for compulsory military service;
5. Establish, whenever necessary, summer camps and centers for youth leadership and other youth activities;
6. Conduct promotion and fund raising campaigns, in accordance with existing law, to achieve the purposes of the Department;
7. Plan and implement an integrated program of physical fitness and amateur sports development for the country;
8. Adopt and enforce a uniform set of rules to determine and govern amateur athletes and sports in the Philippines and for the accreditation or recognition (or its withdrawal) and supervision of national sports associations; and consistent with administrative due process, to govern the procedure to be observed by the national sports associations in hearing and deciding cases before them either on initial hearings or on appeal;
9. Develop and/or maintain recreational facilities, playgrounds, and sports centers in strategic places in the country, and a modern sports complex adequate for major international sports competitions;
10. Assist the proper government department or agency in the formulation of an industry incentives program for the local manufacture of sporting goods and equipment;
11. Administer the existing National College of Physical Education in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Education and Culture;
12. Provide such incentives to deserving associations or athletes as may be permissible under the rules or amateurism;
13. Issue rules and adopt measures as may be necessary for the attainment of its objectives;
14. Delegate authority for the performance of any function of officers and employees under its direction; and
15. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the President or provided by law.

The Department may import sports equipment and materials as may be required for the attainment of its objectives from its appropriations, contributions, or other sources. Such importation may be partially or fully exempt from customs duties, subject to conditions as may be imposed by the Secretary of Finance.

SEC. 4. *Department Proper.* — The Department shall have a Planning and Financial Service and an Administrative Service.

The Planning and Financial Service shall, among others, be responsible for providing the Department with economical, efficient, and effective services relating to planning, programming, and project development and evaluation and with staff advice and assistance on budgetary and financial matters.

The Administrative Service shall, among others, be responsible for providing the Department with economical, efficient, and effective services relating to personnel, legal assistance, information, records, supplies, equipment, collections, disbursements, and custodial work.

SEC. 5. *Bureau of Youth Development.* — There is created a Bureau of Youth Development, hereinafter referred to in this Section as the Bureau, which shall be responsible for youth development research and for developing and evaluating programs geared to the development of youth through self-improvement, leisure time activities, disciplinary training, and involvement in community affairs. The Bureau shall be headed by a Director.

The Bureau shall have the following divisions: a Research and Information Division and a Program Development Division.

The Research and Information Division shall develop and evaluate basic and applied research programs on the physical, mental, emotional, social, and creative-aesthetic development of youth. It shall develop, initiate, and provide support for the development and coordination of youth projects and shall design strategies to gain the support and cooperation of all institutions, public and private, to the programs on youth development.

The Program Development Division shall develop and evaluate youth programs which will be undertaken by the Department through its regional offices. It shall also coordinate and harmonize its civic action program with the various youth programs being undertaken by different government agencies. It shall develop guidelines and standards governing the implementation of youth development programs within the Department's responsibilities.

SEC. 6. *Bureau of Physical Fitness and Sports.* — There is created a Bureau of Physical Fitness and Sports, hereinafter referred to in this Section as the Bureau, which shall be responsible for providing guidelines and standards on physical education and fitness, on the promotion and improvement of sports among amateurs, and on the development and maintenance of playgrounds and sports centers. It shall also develop a program on annual inter-scholastic meets and provide guidelines for its implementation. The Bureau shall be headed by a Director.

The Bureau shall have the following divisions: a Physical Fitness Programs Division and an Amateur Sports Development Division.

The Physical Fitness Programs Division shall be responsible for the planning of broad-based nationwide physical fitness, recreation, and health programs.

The Amateur Sports Development Division shall be responsible for supervising and coordinating with the national sports associations, developing and maintaining sports centers and facilities, and fund raising.

SEC. 7. *National Sports Associations.* — Application for accreditation or recognition as a national sports association for each individual sport in the Philippines shall be filed with the Department together with, among others, a copy of the Constitution and By-laws and a list of the members of the proposed association.

The Department shall give the recognition applied for if it is satisfied that the national sports association to be organized will promote the objectives of this Decree and has substantially complied with the rules and regulations of the Department: