

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 178, February 27, 2003]

FURTHER DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 425, SERIES OF 1991

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 425, Series of 1991, issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 6734, effected the devolution to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) certain powers and functions of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), including the control and supervision over its offices, programs and projects in the ARMM;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the Province of Basilan (except Isabela City) and City of Marawi to the original four provinces comprising the ARMM;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the National Government to devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and Republic Act No. 6734, as amended by Republic Act No. 9054, as many functions and powers of national government agencies to the ARG;

WHEREAS, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable and lasting peace in Mindanao; and

WHEREAS, the Oversight Committee created pursuant to Republic Act No. 9054 deemed it imperative to further devolve certain powers and functions of DOST to the ARG.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Transfer of Powers and Functions.— In addition to the powers and functions of the DOST previously devolved to the ARG pursuant to Executive Order No. 425 (Series of 1991), the following powers and functions are hereby devolved from DOST to the ARG:

- a. Administration of Scientific and Technological (S&T) Scholarships, Awards and Grants;
- b. Development and Improvement of S&T Education and Training;
- c. Administration of S&T Incentive and Career System;
- d. Conduct of Research and Development (R&D) on Information Technology and Advanced Fields; and