

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 76, March 04, 2002 ]**

**PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HYBRID RICE PROGRAM, TRANSFERRING THE PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS , the Government is committed to the creation of one million new jobs in agriculture and fisheries under the "One Million Jobs" Program;

WHEREAS , by virtue of Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 25 dated December 12, 2001, the Government embarked on the Hybrid Rice Program and the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Trade and Industry, the National Food Authority and their respective allied agencies were authorized to accelerate and intensify the promotion of the utilization of hybrid rice technology;

WHEREAS , under the Hybrid Rice Program, hybrid rice planting targets shall cover 135,000 hectares in 2002, 200,000 hectares in 2003 and 300,000 hectares in 2004 in the major irrigated rice producing provinces;

WHEREAS , the utilization of hybrid rice technology is expected to increase productivity and create new jobs;

WHEREAS , by virtue of Executive Order No. 1061 dated November 5, 1985 as amended by Executive Order No. 60 dated November 7, 1986, the Philippine Rice Research Institute was established under the Department of Agriculture, to develop, in coordination with the University of the Philippines at Los Baños, a national rice research program so as to sustain and further improve the gains already made in rice production, improve the income and economic condition of small rice farmers, expand employment opportunities in the rural areas, and ultimately promote the general welfare of the people through self-sufficiency in rice production;

WHEREAS , there is a need to place the Philippine Rice Research Institute under the Office of the President for closer administrative supervision and to reconstitute the Board of Trustees to enhance its effectiveness;

WHEREAS , under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

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. Lead Agency . The Philippine Rice Research Institute (PHILRICE) shall be the primary Government agency responsible for the Hybrid Rice Program ("Program") and the promotion of the utilization of hybrid rice technology.