

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 425, October 12, 1990 ]**

**PLACING UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT THE LINE AGENCIES  
AND OFFICES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO DEALING WITH  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, TOURISM,  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, SOCIAL WELFARE  
AND DEVELOPMENT, AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the mandate under the 1987 Constitution, the Congress of the Philippines enacted into law Republic Act No. 6734, otherwise known as the Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 1 (2), Article II of the aforesaid Organic Act, a plebiscite was held on 19 November 1989 wherein four (4) provinces: Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, ratified the said Organic Act and voted favorably to be included in the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, on 17 February 1990, elections for the offices of the Regional Governor, Regional Vice-Governor and the members of the Regional Assembly, were held;

**WHEREAS**, with the election and assumption into office of its officials, the Autonomous Regional Government for ARMM is now deemed organized;

**WHEREAS**, the first paragraph of Section 4, Article XIX of Republic Act No. 6734, provides that: "[U]pon organization of the Autonomous Region, the line agencies and offices of the National Government dealing with local government, social services, science and technology, labor, natural resources, and tourism, including their personnel, equipment, properties and budgets, shall be immediately placed under the control and supervision of the Regional Government";

**WHEREAS**, the second paragraph of Section 3, Article XIX of Republic Act No. 6734 further provides that: "[W]ithin six (6) months after its organization, the Oversight Committee shall submit its report and recommendations to the President of the Philippines who shall act on the report and recommendations within ninety (90) days after receipt thereof: *Provided, however*, That if the President fails to act within said period, the recommendations of the Oversight Committee shall be deemed approved";

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* Pursuant to the 1987 Constitution and Republic Act No. 6734, it shall be the policy of the National Government to ensure the full

and expeditious devolution of powers and functions to the Autonomous Regional Government of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

SEC. 2. *General Terms Defined.* For purposes of this Executive Order and subsequent issuances pertaining to the Autonomous Regional Government of the ARMM, the following terms shall mean:

- 1) **National Government** - refers to the entire machinery of the Central government as distinguished from the different forms of local governments.
- 2) **Agency of Government** - refers to any of the various units of the Government, including a department, bureau, office, instrumentality, or government-owned or controlled corporation or a distinct unit therein.
- 3) **Department** - refers to an executive department created by law.
- 4) **Supervision and control** - shall include authority to act directly whenever a specific function is entrusted by law or a regulation to a subordinate; direct the performance of duty; restrain the commission of acts; review, approve, reverse or modify acts and decisions of subordinate officials or units; determine priorities in the execution of plans and programs; and prescribe standards, guidelines, plans and programs. Unless a different meaning is explicitly provided in the specific law governing the relationship of particular agencies, the word "control" shall encompass supervision and control as defined in this paragraph.

SEC. 3. *Mandate.* Pursuant to Section 1, Article VI of the Organic Act of the ARMM, the President of the Philippines shall exercise general supervision over the Autonomous Regional Government, including the local governments therein, directly or through the Regional Governor, to ensure that national and regional laws are faithfully executed.

SEC. 4. *Transfer of Control and Supervision.* The following National Government offices and line agencies dealing with local government, social welfare and development, science and technology, labor and employment, environment and natural resources, and tourism, within the ARMM including their personnel, equipment, properties and budgets are placed under the control and supervision of the Autonomous Regional Government.

The Heads of the said offices and agencies, including their officials and employees, are hereby directed to extend their fullest assistance and cooperation to the Autonomous Regional Government of ARMM to ensure the orderly transfer thereof.

SEC. 5. *Functions Transferred.* Pursuant to the foregoing section, the functions of the following line agencies and offices of the National Government are hereby transferred to the Autonomous Regional Government of the ARMM, viz.:

A. Department of Labor and Employment

- 1) Formulate and recommend to the Regional Governor regional policies, plans and programs for manpower development, training, allocation, and utilization;
- 2) Protect and promote the interest of every constituent desiring to work locally or overseas by securing to him the most equitable terms and conditions of employment, and by providing social and welfare services;
- 3) Regulate the employment of aliens within the ARMM, including the establishment of a registration and/or work permit system for such aliens;
- 4) Formulate general guidelines concerning wage and income policy;
- 5) Recommend to the Regional Governor necessary adjustments in wage structures with a view to develop a wage system that is consistent with national economic and social development plans;
- 6) Provide for safe, decent, humane and improved working conditions and environment for all workers, particularly women and young workers;
- 7) Maintain, harmonious, equitable and stable labor relations system that is supportive of national and regional economic policies and programs;
- 8) Uphold the rights of workers and employers to organize and to promote free collective bargaining as the foundation of the labor relations system; and,
- 9) Provide and ensure the fair and expeditious settlement and disposition of labor and industrial disputes through collective bargaining, grievance machinery, conciliation, mediation, voluntary arbitration, compulsory arbitration as may be provided by law, and other modes that may be voluntarily agreed upon by the parties concerned.

B. Department of Local Government

- 1) Advise the Regional Governor on the promulgation of regional policies, rules, regulations and other issuances relative to the general supervision of local governments;
- 2.) Establish and prescribe rules, regulations and other issuances implementing laws on the general supervision of local governments and the promotion of local autonomy and community empowerment and to monitor compliance thereof by said units;
- 3) Provide assistance in the preparation of regional legislation

affecting the local governments;

- 4) Establish and prescribe regional plans, policies, programs and projects to strengthen the administrative, technical and fiscal capabilities of local government offices and personnel; and,
- 5) Formulate plans, policies and programs which will meet local emergencies arising from natural and man-made disasters.

C. Department of Tourism

- 1) Advise the Regional Governor on the promulgation of regional laws relative to the policy, plans, programs and projects designed to promote and develop the tourism industry;
- 2) Formulate policies, plans, programs and projects for the development of the tourism industry within the ARMM;
- 3) Devise an integrated marketing program designed to attract and induce people abroad to visit the ARMM;
- 4) Promote and ensure the pleasant and hospitable entry, stay and egress of tourists;
- 5) Coordinate with any or all government agencies, civil or military, in the implementation of the rules and regulations, other issuances, and enforcement of orders and/or decisions of the appropriate regional agency;
- 6) Formulate standards for tourism-oriented establishments that will prescribe minimum levels of operating quality and efficiency in order to ensure that facilities, personnel and services are maintained in accordance with acceptable local and international norms in the operations of tourism-oriented establishments;
- 7) Promulgate rules and regulations governing the operations and activities of all persons, firms, entities and establishments that cater to tourists, to provide standards for accreditation of hotels, resorts and tourist-oriented facilities for classification purposes, and to prescribe rules and regulations governing the issuance of licenses to travel agencies consistent with national laws;
- 8) Approve the construction standards of accredited tourism-oriented establishments including hotels, resorts, inns, motels, and other related facilities and services;
- 9) Prescribe information reporting on the purchase, sale or lease of accredited tourism-oriented facilities;
- 10) Ensure a harmonious, positive and constructive development of the tourism industry;

- 11) Provide technical assistance to the Committee on Privatization and Asset Privatization Trust, or such other government agency, office or institution as are charged, with the duty and/or responsibility of selling government-owned or controlled hotels, resorts and other tourist-oriented facilities within the ARMM;
- 12) Promote the ARMM as a locale for foreign film or movie production or any other form of entertainment that will serve to enhance the image of the Philippines as a destination internationally;
- 13) Prescribe programs to encourage private sector investment and participation in tourism activities and projects;
- 14) Compile and integrate a statistical data bank on the tourism industry;
- 15) Promote the protection, maintenance and preservation of historical, cultural and natural assets with tourist attractions with the appropriate government agencies or with the private sector with the owners of said assets or attractions;
- 16) Undertake research studies and surveys for the continuing analysis of economic conditions and trends relating to tourism and travel;
- 17) Protect and enhance the Filipino image in the entertainment field and thereby gain better international respect and reputation for the ARMM by assisting the appropriate government agency in auditioning Filipino entertainers being sent abroad;
- 18) Evaluate incentives to tourist-oriented facilities, and submit their recommendations to the Regional Governor;
- 19) Assist the enforcement of all laws and regulations for the protection of tourist and other transients;
- 20) Exercise such other powers and functions that may be necessary, proper, or incidental to the attainment of his mandate;
- 21) Arrange, whenever deemed appropriate, for the reclamation of any land adjacent to or adjoining a tourist zone in coordination with appropriate government agencies;
- 22) Coordinate with appropriate government agencies the development of infrastructure requirements supporting a tourist zone such as, but not limited to, access roads to the zone, electric power brought to the proper line of the zone, airports, harbors, and other support facilities; and,
- 23) Coordinate with concerned government agencies the