

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 803, May 21, 1982]

**ESTABLISHING AN INTEGRATED AREA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FOR AGRICULTURAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, under the New Republic, national economic development shall be pursued with renewed dedication and determination;

WHEREAS, the provisions of adequate and timely agricultural services and inputs is essential to the attainment of the desired level of growth in the agriculture sector as well as self-sufficiency in food;

WHEREAS, while there are various government agencies responsible for the delivery of such agricultural services and input in the rural areas, there is no mechanism for securing the desired coordination and integration of their operations for any given area;

WHEREAS, there is therefore need to provide an effective administrative framework that will secure the integration and coordination of agricultural services and inputs and thus allow the government to more effectively respond to the requirements of development in any given rural area;

WHEREAS, it would be desirable to adopt the integrated area management concept as the appropriate mechanism for unifying government efforts at providing agricultural services;

WHEREAS, as a concomitant measure, there is need to preserve prime agricultural lands for the production of food and other crops and avoid their conversion into being used for non-agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS, under Presidential Decree No. 1416 as amended, the President is empowered to undertake such organizational and related improvements as may be appropriate in the light of changing circumstances and new developments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, and the authority vested in me by Presidential Decree No. 1416 as amended, do hereby order and ordain:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established an integrated area management system for agricultural services which shall unify the operations of various government agencies involved in the delivery of agricultural services and inputs for any given area of operations. The desirability of its establishment is predicated on the rationale that the effective coordination of government efforts at providing essential farm services in the rural areas can best be attained if this were undertaken on a specific area basis.

The integrated area management system for agricultural services shall be managed through the administrative framework hereinbelow established and provided for.

SECTION 2. At the national level, the Ministry of Agriculture, as the agency primarily responsible for agricultural development, shall with the assistance of the National Food and Agriculture Council, formulate policies, plans, programs and guidelines, including the integrated implementation of the delivery of agricultural services and inputs. It shall be responsible for the overseeing, general coordination and monitoring of operations and activities relative thereto.

SECTION 3. At the regional level, a regional agricultural land classification committee is hereby created which shall be responsible for the identification of specific areas for agricultural purposes in the provinces within the region. The committee shall operate as a sub-committee of the Regional Development Council, and shall be composed of the Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority as Chairman, and the Regional Directors of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Human Settlements, the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Natural Resources as members.

In addition to the national level, the coordination of agricultural research programs and the conduct of agricultural training programs may be undertaken as well as at the regional level.

SECTION 4. The province shall be the focal point for effecting area integration in the delivery of agricultural services and inputs. The organizational framework at the provincial level shall be as follows:

(a) The provincial governors shall have the basic responsibility and the corresponding authority for the general coordination and supervision of the operations of the various agencies involved in the delivery of agricultural services and inputs within the province.

For this purpose, the national agencies involved shall cooperate with and instruct their provincial offices or field personnel to submit to the supervision of the governor as needed in order to realize an effective integrated area management system at the provincial level.

(b) There shall be established a Provincial Agricultural Council, which shall operate as a committee of the Provincial Development Council, to be headed by the governor. The Council shall serve as the mechanism for achieving coordination and harmonization of operations of agencies providing farm services and inputs in the province. It shall be responsible for providing advice to and developing operating policies for the guidance of the governor.

More, specifically, the Council shall, among others, (1) prepare and operationalize an integrated agricultural development program for the province on the basis of approved related national policies and programs; indicating among others, the preferred commodity production patterns in the agricultural lands in the province; (2) determine the extension services and inputs needed for the effective implementation of the program and, where necessary, recommend measures to appropriate ministries or agencies to ensure adequate and timely provision of such services and inputs; (3) adopt a deployment scheme for the extension workers