

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 709, July 27, 1981]

CREATING A MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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

WHEREAS, as a means of achieving this goal, there is need to correlate industrial promotion more closely to the expanding trade markets of the Philippines, particularly in the international economic field;

WHEREAS, there is need to mesh together under a unified direction the efforts of the government in developing a more balanced and integrated program of industry and commerce to enable the economy to respond more effectively to the industrial requirements of the domestic market as well as the increasing number of export outlets for Philippine products; 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 created a Ministry of Trade and Industry, hereinafter referred to as the Ministry. The existing Ministry of Trade established pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 721 as amended, and the existing Ministry of Industry established pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 488 as amended, are abolished together with their services, bureaus and similar agencies, regional offices, and all other entities under their supervision and control. Their functions, applicable appropriations, records, equipment, property, and such personnel as may be necessary are transferred to the new Ministry, except as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 2. The authority and responsibility for the exercise of the powers and the discharge of the functions of the Ministry shall be vested in the Minister of Trade and Industry, hereinafter referred to as the Minister, who shall be appointed by the President. He shall be assisted by such Deputy Ministers as may be appointed by the President. The Minister is authorized to determine and assign the respective functional areas of responsibility of the Deputy Ministers, should there be more than one; provided, that such delineation of responsibilities shall cover the substantive functions and operations of the Ministry; and provided further, that no Deputy Minister shall be assigned primarily administrative matters.

SECTION 3. The Ministry Proper of the Ministry shall be composed of an Office of the Minister, a Planning Service, a Financial and Management Service, an Administrative

Service, and a Legal Service. The Deputy Minister or Ministers shall form part of the Office of the Minister.

SECTION 4. The Ministry shall exercise supervision and control over the following bureaus and offices which are hereby created in the Ministry:

- (1) Bureau of Domestic Trade, which shall assume the functions of the abolished Bureau of Domestic Trade Promotion and the abolished Bureau of Consumer Affairs;
- (2) Bureau of Foreign Trade, which shall assume the functions of the abolished Bureaus of Export Promotion and of International Trade Relations;
- (3) Bureau of Industrial Development, which shall assume the functions of the abolished Bureaus of Industrial Coordination and of Industrial Information and Programs;
- (4) Bureau of Small and Medium Industries, which shall assume the functions of the abolished entity of the same name;
- (5) Philippine Patent Office, which shall assume the functions of the abolished Philippine Patent Office; and
- (6) Product Standards Agency, which shall assume the functions of the abolished Philippine Bureau of Products Standards and the Metric System Board which is abolished under Section 7 hereof.

SECTION 5. The Ministry shall exercise administrative supervision over the following entities:

- (1) Board of Investments (2) Cement Industry Authority (3) Commission for Heavy Engineering Industries (4) Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (5) Design Center Philippines (6) Garments and Textile Export Board (7) Iron and Steel Authority (8) Philippine Textile Research Institute (9) Presidential Advisory Committee on the Copper Industry (10) Price Stabilization Council (11) Technology Transfer Board

The Board of Investments shall continue to be responsible for the evaluation and registration as well as the granting of incentives to individual companies in accordance with national policies and priorities, while the Bureau of Industrial Development and the Bureau of Small and Medium Industries shall be responsible for primarily promotional and industry-wide activities for the large-scale and small-scale industrial subsectors respectively. The functions and staffing patterns of the Board of Investments, the Bureau of Industrial Development, and the Bureau of Small and Medium Industries shall be aligned accordingly.

SECTION 6. The following corporations are attached to the Ministry for policy and program coordination:

- (1) Export processing Zone Authority (2) Metals Industry Research and Development Center (3) National Cottage Industries Development Authority (4) National Development Company (5) Philippine International Trading Corporation (6) Philippine Shippers' Council