

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 710, July 27, 1981]

CREATING A MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

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

WHEREAS, the separation of the functions pertaining to public highways from those concerning public works had been prompted by the necessity of hastening the completion of the major road networks of the country;

WHEREAS, the construction of such major road networks having been completed for the most part, such government functions may now be merged once again for greater simplicity and economy in operations; 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 Public Works and Highways, hereinafter referred to as the Ministry. The existing Ministry of Public Works established pursuant to Executive Order No. 546 as amended, and the existing Ministry of Public Highways established pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 458 as amended, are abolished together with their services, bureaus and similar agencies, regional offices, and all other entities within their supervision and control. Their functions, applicable appropriations, records, equipment, property, and such personnel as may be necessary are hereby transferred to the new Ministry.

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 Public Works and Highways, hereinafter referred to as the Minister, who shall be appointed by the President. He shall be assisted by such Deputy Ministers as may be necessary, who shall 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 responsibilities.

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, a Legal Service, a Manpower Development Service, and a Comptrollership

Service.

The Comptrollership Service shall absorb the abolished Infrastructure Computer Center.

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

- (1) Bureau of Construction, which shall provide technical services on the construction, rehabilitation, betterment, and improvement of infrastructure facilities;
- (2) Bureau of Design, which shall undertake project development, engineering surveys, and designs of infrastructure facilities;
- (3) Bureau of Equipment, which shall provide technical services on the management of construction and maintenance equipment and ancillary facilities;
- (4) Bureau of Maintenance, which shall provide technical services on the maintenance and repair of infrastructure facilities; and
- (5) Bureau of Materials and Quality Control, which shall provide research and technical services on quality control and on the management of materials plants and ancillary facilities for the production and processing of construction materials.

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

- (1) National Water Resources Council
- (2) Metro Manila Flood Control Development Council
- (3) Pasig River Development Council

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

- (1) Farm Systems Development Corporation
- (2) Local Water Utilities Administration
- (3) Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System
- (4) National Irrigation Administration

SECTION 7. The Communications and Electricity Development Authority is attached to the Ministry of Energy for policy and program coordination.

The Philippine Ports Authority is attached to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for policy and program coordination. The Minister of Transportation and Communications shall be Chairman and the Minister of Public Works and Highways a member of the Board of the Authority.

The Central Luzon-Cagayan Valley Authority is abolished, and its functions, applicable appropriations, records, equipment, property, and such personnel as may be necessary are transferred to the appropriate units of the Ministry, as may be determined by the Minister.

The functions of the Building Services and Real Property Management Office of the General Services Administration pertaining to the maintenance and repair of public