

[OP EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 816, July 06, 2009]

**DECLARING THE RIVER BASIN CONTROL OFFICE UNDER THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AS
THE LEAD GOVERNMENT AGENCY FOR THE INTEGRATED
PLANNING, MANAGEMENT, REHABILITATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S RIVER BASINS**

WHEREAS, the Constitution mandates the State to protect and promote the conservation and wise use of the country's natural resources to achieve social development, economic progress and ecological stability;

WHEREAS, the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTDP) of the government includes water resources management and the formulation of a comprehensive development plan for the water resources of the country;

WHEREAS, the integration and harmonization of various government mandates and resources in the provisions for safe and clean water supply and effective flood control management for the entire country is emphasized in the MTDP;

WHEREAS, the reforestation and watersheds, coupled with the establishment of water quality, effective flood control and measures, and the implementation of integrated water management scheme, are highly recommended for the sustainable supply and allocation of safe and clean water;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Executive Order (EO) No. 192, series of 1987, mandates that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is the primary government agency responsible for the conservation, management, and development of the country's environment and natural resources, as well as their proper use, and shall ensure the equitable sharing of the benefits derived therefrom for the welfare of the present and future generations of Filipinos;

WHEREAS, there are existing river basin and flood control projects that should be rationalized into the Integrated River Basin Development and Management Master Plan and Framework Plan;

WHEREAS, there are several areas in the country that have no major river basins but which, nevertheless, has been and are vulnerable to water shortages, water pollution, major flooding and land slides, and therefore needs inclusion in the master plan for integrated river basins management;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 510 dated March 5, 2006 mandates the River Basin Control Office under the DENR to rationalize various river basin projects such as, but not limited to, the following: the Pasig River Rehabilitation, KAMANAVA flood control, Agno River and Allied Rivers Flood Control, and to promote and advocate an integrated river basin management to ensure protection of environment and people against floods and natural disasters;