

# **[ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 1644, October 04, 1979 ]**

## **GRANTING ADDITIONAL POWERS TO THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the economic well-being of a major sector of the entire population depends, to a large extent, on the viability of the coconut industry;

WHEREAS, in recognition of this economic reality, it is the declared policy of the State to promote the rapid integrated development and growth of the coconut and other palm oils industry in all its aspects and to insure that the coconut farmers become direct participants in, and beneficiaries of, such growth and developments;

WHEREAS, to insure the viability, growth and development of the coconut industry, the State has undertaken a program to rationalize the coconut oil milling industry and thereby assure the coconut farmers a fair price for their copra and the consuming countries an adequate and continuous supply of copra, coconut oil and their by products at fair and competitive prices;

WHEREAS, in order to further promote the rationalization of the coconut oil milling industry, it is necessary to grant the Philippine Coconut Authority additional, powers in respect of the marketing and export of copra, coconut oil and their by-products;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree as follows:

SECTION 1. The Philippine Coconut Authority shall have full power and authority to regulate the marketing and export of copra, coconut oil and their by-products, in furtherance of the steps being taken to rationalise the coconut oil milling industry.

SEC. 2. In the exercise of its powers under Section 1 hereof, the Philippine Coconut Authority may initiate and implement such measures as may be necessary to attain the rationalization of the coconut oil milling industry, including, but not limited to, the following measures:

- (a) Imposition of floor and/or ceiling prices for all exports of copra, coconut oil and their by-products;
- (b) Prescription of quality standards;
- (c) Establishment of maximum quantities for particular periods and particular markets;
- (d) Inspection and survey of export shipments through an independent international superintendent or surveyor.

In the exercise of its powers hereunder, the Philippine Coconut Authority shall consult with, and be guided by, the recommendation of the coconut farmers, through corporations owned or controlled by them through the Coconut Industry Investment Fund and the private corporation authorized to be organized under Letter of Instructions No. 926.