

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1553, June 11, 1978]

AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBER NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX ENTITLED "MODIFYING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR THE BICOL RIVER BASIN PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES", INCLUDING SORSOGON PROVINCE AND THE EFFICIENT COORDINATION, SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE BICOL RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, it is a policy of the Government to promote the integrated development of agriculture, natural resources, infrastructure and social services in underdeveloped regions to solidify the economic and social structure of our society;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 805 reconstituted the Cabinet Coordinating Committee on Intergrated Rural Development Projects constituted under Letter of Instructions No. 99;

WHEREAS, an integrated rural development program has been adopted for the Bicol River Basin;

WHEREAS, the success of the program requires that the management and planning of the basin area can be comprehensive, decentralized, and framed within regional and national plans;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to enhance the organizational framework and system capability for planning and monitoring of this integrated multi-project area development program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested, in me by the Constitution, in order to insure the success of this program, do hereby order and decree the following:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Presidential Decree No. 926 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. *Cabinet Committee Coordinator for the Program.* The Secretary of Public Works, Transportation and Communication shall be the Cabinet Committee Coordinator for the Program and shall act for the Chairman of the Cabinet Committee in all Administrative matters, in accordance with the broad policies and guidelines established by the Cabinet Committee. As Cabinet Committee Coordinator he shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Oversee the coordination of the planning and implementation of the program;
- b. Review the Program's consolidated plans, budgets and work programs and recommend approval by the Cabinet Committee;
- c. Arrange and/or negotiate with local and foreign financial institutions, subject to approval by the Cabinet Committee for the funding of rural development projects in the Basin;