

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1414, June 09, 1978]

FURTHER DEFINING THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT ON NATIONAL MINORITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Constitution mandates that the State shall consider the customs, traditions, beliefs and interests of national minorities in the formulation and implementation of State policies;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of government to extend to the national minorities equality in stature, dignity and opportunity with all other citizens;

WHEREAS, the Presidential Assistant on National Minorities has been actively involved for many years in this continuing endeavor.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby decree and make as part of the law of the land the following measure:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.*—It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to integrate into the mainstream of Philippine society certain ethnic groups who seek full integration into the larger community, and at the same time protect the rights of those who wish to preserve their original lifeways beside that larger community.

SEC. 2. *National Minorities Defined.*—For purposes of this Decree, the term National Minorities shall apply to the non Muslim hill tribes referred to under Presidential Decree No. 719 an other non-Muslim national minorities whether referred to as National Cultural Minorities or Cultural Communities under other laws.

SEC. 3. *Powers, Functions and Duties.*—Implementation of the above-stated policy is hereby vested in the Office of the Presidential Assistant on National Minorities, hereinafter referred to as PANAMIN, under the Office of the President, which shall act for and in behalf of the President in all matters pertaining to National Minorities and shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

- a. Perform the powers, functions and duties provided under Presidential Decree No. 719, incorporating the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 1888 as amended;
- b. Establish and maintain ethnographic research centers and museums as may be necessary for the purpose of preserving artifacts and other evidences of the lifeways of National Minorities;
- c. Design, implement and maintain settlements and development projects among the National Minorities in furtherance of the herein declared policy of government;
- d. Act as the agency through which National Minorities can seek government as well as private assistance and serve as the instrumentality through which assistance from both the government and the private sector, local as well as foreign, may be given to the National Minorities. For this purpose, PANAMIN is hereby authorized to give grants-in-aid out of its appropriation or other funds from whatever source to cooperating government agencies, tribal groups