

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 685, April 15, 1975 ]

## **AUTHORIZING GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION IN THE CONFEDERATION OF PHILIPPINE EXPORTERS, INC., EXTENDING THE USE OF GOVERNMENT FACILITIES TO SAID CONFEDERATION, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Confederation of Philippine Exporters, Inc., (COPE) a non-stock, non-profit association of individuals, corporations, associations, partnerships, cooperatives and other institutions engaged in the export business or in servicing or financing of exports, is the only voluntary organization in the Philippines which integrates the private sector into a single corporate body in order to perform the vital function of assisting the Government in the development, promotion and expansion of the country's export trade; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to assist the Confederation of Philippine Exporters, Inc. in accomplishing its important role, it is necessary for the government to recognize it as a private entity dedicated to a public purpose, and to extend every possible assistance to insure its success;

**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:

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to actively encourage the participation of the private sector in the development, promotion and expansion of the Philippine export trade.

**SEC. 2. Objectives.** The Confederation of Philippine Exporters, Inc., hereinafter referred to as COPE, shall have the following objectives:

- 1) To help promote and expand the export trade of the Philippines;
- 2) To provide a forum for all persons, associations, and other institutions concerned with the export trade for the purpose of recommending ways and means to effectively improve and expand Philippine exports in particular, and promote the public interest in general;
- 3) To promote greater cooperation and coordination between exporters and the government agencies concerned;
- 4) To conduct studies pertinent to exports and to collate these data for the information of, and dissemination to, the members, and the public;
- 5) To support the adoption of internationally accepted quality standards and to encourage the observance of fair trade practices;
- 6) To actively participate whenever authorized to do so, in the formulation and implementation of an integrated national export promotion program;
- 7) To promote a spirit of service, mutual cooperation, efficiency and goodwill among its members;
- 8) To assist the government and perform such functions as may