# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 210 [*], June 08, 1973 ]

## PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BARANGAYS (CITIZENS ASSEMBLIES).

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 86, dated December 31, 1973, created the Barangays (Citizens Assemblies) in order to broaden the base of citizen participation in the democratic process and to afford ample opportunities for the citizenry to express their views on important national issues;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 86-A, dated January 5, 1973, strengthening and defining the role of Barangays (Citizens Assemblies) states that they shall constitute the base for citizen participation in governmental affairs and their collective views considered in the formulation of national policies or programs;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 86-B, dated January 7, 1973, provided, among others, that important national issues shall from time to time be referred to the Barangays for resolution;

**WHEREAS**, the Barangays have been recognized and accepted as instrumentalities of the sovereign will of the people;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Elections has now been duly constituted pursuant to the New Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 4, Article V, of the New Constitution, it shall be the obligation of every citizen qualified to vote to register and cast his vote;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces of the Philippines and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, do hereby order and decree to be part of the laws of the land the following:

**SECTION 1**. Supervision of the Commission on Elections. The Commission on Elections shall, in addition to the powers and functions conferred upon it by the Constitution, have direct supervision and control in the registration of members of the Barangays (Citizens Assemblies) and shall exercise and perform such other powers and functions as may be conferred upon it by this Decree.

**SEC. 2**. Participation in the Barangay (Citizens Assembly). — In order that a qualified person may participate and vote in any meeting or referendum of the Barangay created under Presidential Decree No. 86, he must be registered in the Barangay list of the barrio, barangay or district where he resides.

**SEC. 3.** *Definitions.* — As used in this Decree, unless the context indicates otherwise:

a. "Barangays" (Citizens Assemblies) refer to the bodies constituted under Presidential Decree No. 86, dated December 31, 1972, and to wards in cities where there are no barrios.
b. "List" shall refer to the registered members of the Barangay,

c. "Barrio Captain" and "Members of the Barrio Council" shall be understood to mean those who were duly elected as such under the revised Barrio Charter, or their duly authorized replacements.

d. "Barangay Chairman" and "Barangay Leaders" shall refer to those who are appointed by City Mayors in accordance with this Decree.

**SEC. 4**. *Barangay List.* — There shall be a list of all the members of the Barangay in each barrio, barangay or district containing the name, sex, civil status, residence and date of birth of each member. The list shall be under the custody of the Barrio Captain or Barangay Chairman.

**SEC. 5**. *Registration Officers*. — The Barrio Captain and members of the Barrio Council, or in the case of chartered cities where there arc no existing barrios, the barangay chairman and barangay leaders shall be the ex officio registration officers in their respective barrios, barangays or districts and shall take charge of the registration of the members of the barangays therein without prejudice to the power of the Commission to deputize public schoolteachers and such other officials or employees whenever the need arises to help in the registration of barangay members.

In cities or areas thereof where no barrios exist, the City Mayor shall appoint the barangay chairman and barangay leaders: Provided, That the number of Barangay Leaders for each barangay or district shall riot be more than ten, one of whom shall be the barangay or district secretary.

**SEC. 6**. *Who must register*. — Every person, literate or not, fifteen years of age or over, who has resided in the barrio, barangay or district for at least six months and who is a Filipino citizen must register with any of the registration officers of the barrio, barangay or district where he resides: Provided, however, That any person who on account of his profession or calling may not be able to register in his barrio, barangay or district may register in the barrio, barangay or district where he is temporarily residing.

**SEC. 7**. *Application for Registration*. — Every person who is qualified to register as member of the barangay shall register by personally appearing before any of the registration officers of the barrio, barangay or district at such place which the latter may designate with proper notices to the barrio, barangay or district members. Registration may also be done at the residence of the registration officers.

To expedite the registration, the registration officers shall also conduct a house-to-house registration.

**SEC. 8**. *Approval or Disapproval of Application.* —If the registration officer finds the applicant qualified, he shall enter his name in the list in his possession, and the require the applicant to fill the registration record which shall contain the name, sex, civil status, residence, sate of birth and signature of the applicant. One copy shall be retained by the applicant and the other copy shall be transmitted to the Election Registrar of the city, municipality and municipal district.

In case the applicant is illiterate or cannot by himself accomplish the registration record, the registration officer shall accomplish the same for and in behalf of the applicant who shall thereafter affix his thumbmark in the presence of two witnesses who must also affix their signatures thereon.