

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 460, May 17, 1991]

**DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF
THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO THE
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OVER ITS
OFFICES IN THE REGION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, Sections 15 to 19, Article XII of Republic Act No. 6734, otherwise known as the Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARM) vest in the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) responsibility over agriculture, fisheries and aquatic resources in the said region;

WHEREAS, the Oversight Committee created under the said Act recommends that the powers and functions as well as the control and supervision over the offices of the Department of Agriculture (DA) within the ARMM be placed under the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG);

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Transfer of Powers and Functions. The following powers and functions of the Department of Agriculture (DA), including those enumerated under Section 5 of Executive Order No. 116, series of 1987 are hereby transferred to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG):

- a. Provide integrated services to farmers and fishermen and other food producers on production, utilization, conservation and disposition of agricultural and fishery resources;
- b. Plan, formulate policies, implement and monitor programs and projects relating to agriculture/food production and supply;
- c. Promulgate and enforce all laws, rules and relations governing the conservation and proper utilization of agricultural and fishery resources;
- d. Establish a central information system to serve the production, marketing and financing data requirements of the farmers as well as investors in agri-business ventures;
- e. Provide comprehensive and effective extension services and training to farmers and other agricultural entrepreneurs on the production, marketing and financing aspects of agricultural enterprises;
- f. Conduct, coordinate and disseminate research studies on appropriate technologies for the improvement and development of ARMM's agricultural

crops, fisheries and other allied commodities, in coordination with the DA;

- g. Provide the mechanism for the participation of farmers and fishermen and entrepreneurs at all levels of policy making and plan/program formulation;
- h. Coordinate with and/or call upon other public and private agencies for cooperation and assistance on matters affecting ARG's plans, policies and programs;
- i. Issue clearance for the importation and exportation of fishery and agricultural commodities in accordance with existing guidelines, laws, rules and regulations of concerned national agencies. In this regard, the ARG shall take note of the list of exportable items and banned commodities, subject to future revision as deemed necessary; and
- j. Approve charter contracts and issue special commercial fishing boat licenses (SCBLF) for chartered foreign fishing boats within the jurisdiction of the ARMM or up to and including all waters within twelve (12) nautical miles from the coastline. The ARG's approval of SCBLF shall be in accordance with the policies, rules and regulations and guidelines of national agencies concerned including the Philippine Coast Guard, Marine Industry Authority, Departments of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Labor.

The following functions of the Secretary of Agriculture, insofar as the ARMM is concerned, are hereby devolved to the ARG:

- a. Promulgation of rules, regulations and other issuances relative to agriculture and fishery;
- b. Establish policies and standards for the efficient and effective operations of the ARG in accordance with the programs of the ARMM;
- c. Promulgate and enforce laws, rules, regulations, and other issuances necessary in carrying out the ARMM's mandate, objectives, policies, plans, programs and projects;
- d. Exercise supervision and control over all functions and activities pertaining to agriculture, fisheries and aquatic resources;
- e. Delegate authority for the performance of any administrative or substantive function to any officer of rank in the ARG; and

The ARG shall exercise within its territorial limits, the following powers and functions of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) as provided in Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended;

- a. Determination and designation of fish landing points for all commercial fishing boats;
- b. Jurisdiction over fish pens and seaweed culture in municipal centers;
- c. Regulation and supervision of the production, capture and gathering of fish and fishery/aquatic products; and