

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 907, September 10, 1983]

CREATING THE CENTRAL VISAYAS REGIONAL PROJECTS OFFICE

WHEREAS, under the New Republic, national development shall be pursued with renewed dedication and greater determination through a more efficient, effective and economical government;

WHEREAS, it is the established national policy to pursue regional development as a means to promote economic growth, social justice, and a more equitable distribution of income among the peoples within and between the various regions;

WHEREAS, the Central Visayas Regional Development Council, through the Central Visayas Urban and Rural Projects Office created under Executive Order No. 694, has undertaken the detailed preparation of urban and rural projects identified under the Region VII Regional Development Investment, Program for possible financing by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD);

WHEREAS, the Central Visayas Regional Project No. I (Rural) has been appraised and is at the pre-implementation stage, while Regional Project No. II (Urban) is scheduled for appraisal in January, 1984; hence, the need to establish an appropriate regional organization structure, fund flow scheme and other institutional arrangements crucial to the successful implementation of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the National Economic and Development Authority regional office should now phase out from its central role in the inception and initial operations of the Central Visayas Rural and Urban Projects and be permitted to return to its primary role with respect to regional development planning;

WHEREAS, it is now desirable to establish a more suitable coordinative implementing machinery so that Regional Projects and other similar suitable projects of an area-specific multi-agency character may be undertaken more effectively;

WHEREAS, it is desirable further to develop alternative coordinative implementing machinery options, initially on a diverse experimental basis but with the ultimate end in view of consistent structures in whole or in part for other regions, particularly with respect to accountability, management, and responsibilities;

WHEREAS, it is also desirable that the coordinative implementing machinery should include a suitable representation of local government officials concerned; and

WHEREAS, under Presidential Decree No. 1416 as amended, the President is empowered to undertake such organizational and related improvements as may be appropriate in the light of changing circumstances and new developments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the authority vested in me by Presidential Decree No. 1416 as amended, do hereby order and ordain:

SECTION 1. Description of Regional Projects. The Central Visayas Regional Projects, hereinafter referred to as the Regional Projects, refers to the set of multi-agency projects, inclusive of local governments, conceptualized, identified, and developed within the Central Visayas region to promote and enhance regional economic growth, with the financial assistance of the IBRD and other bilateral and multilateral international assistance agencies. Initially, it shall consist of the Central Visayas Regional Project No. I (Rural) which includes watershed management, nearshore, social forestry, rural infrastructure and institutional strengthening components, and Central Visayas Regional Project No. II (Urban) which includes transport, industrial development, municipal services, shelter, and financial management components.

SECTION 2. Central Visayas Regional Projects Office. The Central Visayas Regional Projects Office, hereinafter referred to as the Regional Projects Office, is hereby created for the purpose of coordinating the implementation of Regional Projects as defined above. The Regional Projects Office shall report and be directly responsible to the Prime Minister.

The Regional Projects Office shall have its principal office in Metro Cebu and such sub-offices within the region as may be necessary.

SECTION 3. Powers and Functions of the Regional Projects Office. The Regional Projects Office shall coordinate the implementation of Regional Projects in Central Visayas. It shall have the following specific functions:

(a) Assist the Regional Development Council in the conduct of project identification and feasibility studies, and, where desirable, coordinate the conduct of preliminary and detailed engineering activities of line agencies and local governments for sectoral as well as multi-sectoral Regional Projects contained-in RDC Regional Development Investment Programs;

(b) Prepare, in collaboration with implementing agencies from both the national and local governments, the overall annual as well as multi-year work programs and budget estimates of Regional Projects for submission to the Office of Budget and Management through the Prime Minister;

(c) Upon the release of funds for Regional Projects, allocate and sub-allot funds for Regional Projects to project implementing agencies and other entities in the region, based on budgets and work programs approved by the Board.

(d) Conduct a raid-year review of the status of implementation of Regional Projects and submit recommendations as necessary to the Office of Budget and Management for a reallocation of funds released for the Regional Projects: Provided, That once the reallocation is approved, the Regional Projects Office shall immediately sub-allot these funds to the agencies concerned.

(e) Monitor and evaluate the Regional Projects and their components; review and

evaluate the physical and financial progress of Regional Projects under implementation; and recommend or exercise, as appropriate, the proper corrective measures;

(f) Provide technical support and assistance as may be required to project implementing agencies and units;

(g) Undertake special studies and prepare operational plans for project implementation;

(h) Submit to the President, the Prime Minister, and to the Regional Development Council periodic progress reports and such special reports as may be required; and

(i) Perform such other related functions as may be assigned by appropriate higher authorities.

SECTION 4. Powers and Functions of the Regional Development Council. The RDC shall have primary responsibility for regional planning as mandated by Part VII of PD No. 1 and LOI No. 22, for regional development investment programming as mandated by Executive Order No. 589, and for regional budgeting. Projects to be implemented through the Regional Projects Office must first have been approved by the RDC as part of the Regional Development Investment Program (RDIP), in order to ensure 'that the Regional Projects to be undertaken are consistent with and integrated into the regional plans and investment programs of the Central Visayas Regional Development Council.

SECTION 5. Central Visayas Regional Projects Board. The Central Visayas Regional Projects Office shall have a nine-man governing board to be known as the Central Visayas Regional Projects Board, hereinafter referred to as the Regional Projects Board. The Chairman of the RDC shall serve as Chairman. The membership shall consist of four local government officials who shall be either governors of provinces or city mayors in the region; and two regional directors; all of whom shall be designated by the Prime Minister with the confirmation of the President. The regional director of the Ministry of Agriculture and the regional director of the Ministry of Public Works and Highways shall also serve as ex-officio members of the Board. In addition the NEDA Regional Executive Director, the Regional Projects Office Executive Director, and the regional director of the Ministry of Human Settlements shall also attend the meetings and participate in the deliberations of the Regional Projects Board, but without the right to vote. The designated members of the Regional Projects Board shall serve for a term of six years which shall be concurrent with the authorized life of the Board. Both the designated local government officials and regional directors shall be selected in accordance with the nature and geographical emphasis of the Regional Projects involved.

SECTION 6. Powers and Functions of the Regional Projects Board. The Regional Projects Board shall have the following specific functions:

(a) Develop and prescribe operating guidelines, policies, programs, and procedures for and generally oversee the coordination of the implementation of Regional Projects as approved and assigned by the RDC for implementation through the Regional Projects Office;