

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 711, July 28, 1981]

RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, it is desirable to minimize the number of ministries in order to simplify the management of government;

WHEREAS, it is desirable to limit the conferment of ministry status to those agencies which are performing substantive line functions;

WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to modify the status of certain agencies of the government which had previously been formally classified as ministries; 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 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. The following agencies shall no longer be classified as ministries:

- (1) Ministry of the Budget, which is renamed Office of Budget and Management, and which shall be headed by a Director General;
- (2) Ministry of Muslim Affairs, which is renamed Office of Muslim Affairs, and which shall be headed by a Director General;
- (3) Ministry of Public Information, which is renamed Office of Media Affairs, and which shall be headed by a Director General;
- (4) Office of the President
- (5) Office of the Solicitor General
- (6) National Science Development Board

SECTION 2. The heads of ministries are ex-officio Ministers and members with portfolio of the Cabinet. At the discretion of the President, however, other government officials may be conferred the personal rank of Minister and/or appointed members without portfolio of the Cabinet.

SECTION 3. The President may, at his discretion, confer the personal rank of Minister upon, and/or appoint as member without portfolio of the Cabinet, the head of any of the agencies listed in Section 1. The President may also confer the