

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 156, January 06, 1956 ]**

**ABOLISHING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL, TRANSFERRING ITS ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, RECORDS, FUNDS, EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND PLACING THE SAME UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF A PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

In order to implement a coordinated community development program throughout the Philippines, encourage greater local autonomy, and provide an effective planning and coordinating machinery therefor, I, Ramon Magsaysay, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The Community Development Planning Council created by Executive Order No. 57 dated August 16, 1954, is hereby abolished and its administrative staff, records, funds, equipment, and supplies are transferred to the Office of the President and placed under the supervision and control of a Presidential Assistant on Community Development to be appointed by the President of the Philippines.

SEC. 2. The Presidential Assistant on Committee Development shall act for and in behalf of the President in all matters pertaining to community development, and shall:

- (1) Plan and implement the President's community development program in barrios, municipalities, and chartered cities, and coordinate and integrate the activities of all and each of the departments and offices of the Government engaged in community development in order to increase their effectiveness, achieve maximum benefits, and avoid duplication and overlapping of activities;
- (2) Promote the organization of Community Development Councils at the provincial and municipal levels, and Barrio Councils according to law;
- (3) Develop a grants-in-aid program to stimulate participation of barrio citizens in community development;
- (4) Recommend to the President legislation contributing to the economic and social betterment of the rural areas, and the strengthening of local government;
- (5) Perform such other functions as the President may assign to him.

SEC. 3. The Presidential Assistant on Community Development is hereby authorized to issue such directives, rules, and regulations as he may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this Order. He may secure the services of officers and employees of any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the Government whose assistance he may require in accomplishing his purposes. The