DIRECTING THE TURN-OVER OF EXCESS FISHPENS TO SMALL FISHERMEN’S ASSOCIATIONS AND GRANT OF ASSISTANCE TO THE SAME.

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS No. 1399, April 11, 1984

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TO:

LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, FARM SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BUREAU OF COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Letter of Instructions No. 769, provides for the guidelines to be observed in the removal and/or restructuring of fishpens in Laguna de Bay;

WHEREAS, under said LOI, oversized fishpens with permit shall be restructured and the excess removed;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of government to democratize the benefits derived from the lake by providing the marginal users of the same, opportunities to own, manage and operate fishpens;

WHEREAS, small fishermen in the lake area have been organized into associations/cooperatives under the Laguna Lake Cooperative Development Program for the purpose of providing them opportunity to increase their income;

WHEREAS, there is need to give these small associations/ cooperatives every tenable assistance from the government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines do hereby direct the following:

- The Laguna Lake Development Authority, to take over the areas which are in excess of legal limits of fishpens operated by individuals or corporations and to turn them over to qualified small fishermen's associations/cooperatives. Each small fishermen s cooperative shall be granted a maximum of thirty (30) hectares of fishpen which will be owned, managed and operated by its members.

- The Farm Systems Development Corporation, to organize and register small fishermen's cooperatives under the Laguna Lake Cooperative Development Program and provide them with the needed technical, managerial and financial assistance.

- The Bureau of Cooperatives Development to recognize all associations registered with the Farm Systems Development Corporation as cooperatives falling under Presidential Decree No. 175 and for this purpose shall enjoy the privileges of cooperatives enumerated in said Decree.

Done in the City of Manila, on this 11th day of April in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and eighty-four.

(Sgd.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President Republic of the Philippines

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