MALACAÑANG Manila

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO.

DECLARING MARCH 2003 AS AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES CENSUS MONTH

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Act 591 authorizes the Bureau of the Census and Statistics, now renamed under Executive Order 121 as the National Statistics Office (NSO), "to prepare for and undertake all censuses of population, agriculture, industry and commerce";

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 72 provides for the undertaking of special censuses on agriculture, industry, commerce, housing and other sectors as may be approved by the National Economic and Development Authority;

WHEREAS, EO 352, otherwise known as the Designation of Statistical Activities That Will Generate Critical Data for Decision-Making of the Government and the Private Sector, issued on July 1, 1996, designates the conduct of Census of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF) every ten years by the NSO with the objective of providing government planners and policy makers with data on which to base their plans for the country's development;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforesaid law, the 2002 Census of Agriculture and Fisheries will be conducted in March 2003;

WHEREAS, to ensure the successful conduct of the census, the support and cooperation of the citizenry in the 2002 CAF is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare March 2003 as AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES CENSUS MONTH.

All departments and other government agencies, including government-owned or controlled corporations, as well as local government units, are hereby directed to implement and execute the operational plans, directives, and orders of the National Statistical Coordination Board, through the National Statistics Office, relative to this Proclamation Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this ____ day of ____, the year of our Lord, two thousand and one.

GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO President Republic of the Philippines