

Executive Order No. 292 Series of 1987
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The EO promoted the well-being of farmers, including share tenants, leaseholders, settlers, fishermen, and other rural workers by providing an environment in which they can increase their income, improve their living conditions, and maximize their contributions to the national economy. Toward this end, the State shall accelerate agricultural development and enhance the production of agricultural crops, fisheries, and livestock by optimizing the use of resources and by applying modern farming systems and technology in order to attain food security for domestic use and expand and diversify agricultural production for export. It shall also encourage private initiative in agri-business ventures both in the production and in the exportation and importation of food and other allied commodities.

Salient Extension Provisions

BOOK IV
Title IV
Chapter 1
General Provisions

Section 2. Mandate. —The Department is the government agency responsible for the promotion of agricultural development by providing the policy framework, public investments, and support services needed for domestic and export-oriented business enterprises.

In the fulfillment of this mandate, it shall be the primary concern of the Department to improve farm income and generate work opportunities for farmers, fishermen, and other rural workers. It shall encourage people's participation in agricultural development through sectoral representation in agricultural policy-making bodies so that the policies, plans, and programs of the Department are formulated and executed to satisfy their needs.

It shall ensure social justice, equity, productivity and sustainability in the use of agricultural resources.

Section 3. Powers and Functions. —The Department shall:

- (1) Provide integrated services to farmers, fishermen, and other food producers on production, utilization, conservation, and disposition of agricultural and fishery resources;
- (2) Be responsible for the planning, formulation, execution, regulation, and monitoring of programs and activities relating to agriculture, food production, and supply;
- (3) Promulgate and enforce all laws, rules, and regulations governing the conservation and proper utilization of agricultural and fishery resources;
- (4) Establish central and regional information systems to serve the production, marketing, and financing data requirements of the farmers as well as domestic and foreign investors in agri-business ventures;
- (5) Provide comprehensive and effective extension services and training to farmers and other agricultural entrepreneurs on the production, marketing, and financing aspects of agricultural enterprises;
- (6) Conduct, coordinate, and disseminate research studies on appropriate technologies for the improvement and development of agricultural crops, fisheries, and other allied commodities;
- (7) Provide the mechanism for the participation of farmers, fishermen, and entrepreneurs at all levels of policy-making, planning, and program formulation;
- (8) Coordinate with and enlist other public and private agencies for cooperation and assistance on matters affecting the policies, plans, and programs of the Department;
- (9) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

Section 4. Organizational Structure. —The Department shall consist of the Department Proper, the Bureaus, and the Regional, Provincial, Municipal, and Barangay Offices.

The Department Proper shall consist of the Office of the Secretary, the Offices of the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries and their immediate staffs as determined by them respectively, and the Department Services.

The Department of Services and Bureaus shall be grouped as follows:

- (1) Production Group;
- (2) Research, Training and Extension Group;
- (3) Agri-Business Group;
- (4) Planning and Monitoring Group; and
- (5) Support Group.

CHAPTER 2 Department Proper

Section 7. Undersecretaries. —The Undersecretaries shall assist the Secretary in the exercise of the mandate and in the discharge of the powers and functions of the Department.

- (2) The Undersecretary assigned to Staff Operations shall provide staff support services, particularly in administration and finance, production, research, training, and extension;

Section 9. Functions of the Assistant Secretaries. —Each of the seven (7) Assistant Secretaries shall head any of the following: Production Group, Agri-Business Group, Research, Training and Extension Group, Planning and Monitoring Group, Support Group, Foreign-Assisted Projects, and the Regional Operations. In connection therewith, the Assistant Secretaries shall have the following functions:

- (3) The Assistant Secretary assigned to the Research, Training and Extension Group shall be responsible for conducting research and training as well as providing assistance in the establishment of agricultural cooperatives. This group shall be composed of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), and Bureau of Agricultural Cooperatives Development (BACOD);

Bureaus and Offices

SECTION 18. Bureau of Animal Industry. —The Bureau of Animal Industry shall:

- 1) Formulate programs for the development and expansion of the livestock, poultry, and dairy industries to meet the requirements of the growing populace;
- 2) Recommend the specific policies and procedures governing the flow of livestock products through the various stages of marketing, as well as the proper preservation and inspection of such products;
- 3) Coordinate and monitor the activities and projects relating to livestock and allied industries;
- 4) Prescribe standards for quality in the manufacture, importation, labeling, advertising, distribution, and sale of livestock, poultry, and allied industries; and
- 5) For its own sector, recommend plans, programs, policies, rules, and regulations to the Secretary and provide technical assistance in the implementation of the same.

SECTION 19. Bureau of Plant Industry. —The Bureau of Plant Industry shall:

- (1) Be responsible for the production of improved planting materials, protection of agricultural crops from pests and diseases, and development and improvement of farm equipment and other structures related to the plant industry;
- (2) Prepare a program for the selection, production, and certification of improved planting materials as well as guidelines for its implementation;
- (3) Recommend plant quarantine policies, and prescribe rules and regulations for the prevention, control, and eradication of pests, diseases, and injuries to plants and plant products; and
- (4) For its own sector, recommend plans, programs, policies, rules, and regulations to the Secretary and provide technical assistance in the implementation of the same.

SECTION 20. Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. —The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources shall:

- 1) Formulate plans for the proper management, accelerated development, and proper utilization of the country's fishery and aquatic resources;
- 2) Undertake studies on the economics of the various phases of the fishing industry, which studies shall form the bases for the formulation of policies and programs on fisheries and aquatic resources;
- 3) Render technical assistance and advisory services in the proper procurement, construction and operation of the fishing vessels as well as determination and designation of fish landing points for all commercial fishing boats; and
- 4) For its own sector, recommend plans, programs, policies, rules, and regulations to the Secretary and provide technical assistance in the implementation of the same.

SECTION 21. Bureau of Soils and Water Management. —The Bureau of Soils and Water Management shall:

- 1) Advise and render assistance on matters relative to the utilization and management of soils and water as vital agricultural resources;
- 2) Formulate measures and guidelines for effective soil, land, and water resource utilization, as well as soil conservation in croplands and other agricultural areas;
- 3) Undertake soil research programs;
- 4) Coordinate with the relevant government agencies in resettlement areas and prepare the necessary plans for the provision of technical assistance in solving soil impounding and the prevention of soil erosion, fertility preservation, and other related matters;
- 5) Engage in rainmaking projects for agricultural areas and watersheds to solve the problem of prolonged droughts and minimize their effects on standing agricultural crops; and
- 6) For its own sector, recommend plans, programs, policies, rules, and regulations to the Secretary and provide technical assistance in the implementation of the same.

Section 22. Bureau of Agricultural Research. —The Bureau of Agricultural Research shall:

- 1) Ensure that all agricultural research is coordinated and undertaken for maximum utility to agriculture;
- 2) Tap farmers, farmers' organizations, and research institutions, especially the state colleges and universities, in the conduct of research for use of the Department and its clientele, particularly the farmers, fishermen and other rural workers.

Section 23. Bureau of Agricultural Cooperatives and Development. —The Bureau of Agricultural Cooperatives and Development shall:

- 1) Formulate an integrated system for the development and evaluation of agricultural cooperatives;
- 2) Provide advice and assistance in the establishment of agricultural cooperatives in the rural communities; and
- 3) Evolve a program to promote the economic viability of agricultural cooperatives.

The Bureau shall include in its area of responsibility non-agricultural cooperatives.

Section 24. Bureau of Agricultural Statistics. —The Bureau of Agricultural Statistics shall:

- 1) Be mainly responsible for the collection, compilation, and official release of agricultural statistics;
- 2) Exercise technical supervision over data collection centers;
- 3) Coordinate all agricultural statistics and economic research activities of all bureaus, corporations, and offices under the Department.

Section 25. Agricultural Training Institute.—The Agricultural Training Institute shall:

- 1) Be responsible for the training of all agricultural extension workers and their clientele, who are mostly farmers and other agricultural workers;
- 2) Ensure that training programs address the real needs of the agricultural sectors; and
- 3) Ensure that the research results are communicated to the farmers through the appropriate training and extension activities.

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