MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 70

PROVIDING FOR THE FUNCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT FOR
FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL MODERNIZATION

WHEREAS, the National Government recognizes the importance of rural
development, rural poverty reduction and sustainable management of natural
resources as long term goals;

WHEREAS, to integrate and strengthen the development framework to
achieve such goals, the National Convergence Initiative (NCI) was created through
Joint Memorandum Circular No. 01 (s. 2010) of the Department of Agriculture (DA),
Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and Department of Environment and Natural
Resources (DENR); the mechanisms and objectives of which were reaffirmed under
the Philippine Development Plan for 2011-2016;

WHEREAS, consistent with the above-stated goals, there is likewise a need
to enhance and coordinate the efforts of the National Food Authority, National
Irrigation Administration, Philippine Coconut Authority, and Fertilizer and Pesticide
Authority in fulfilling their respective mandates; and

WHEREAS, the President has appointed a Presidential Assistant for Food
Security and Agricultural Modernization to hasten and further intensify government
efforts for the achievement of the above goals and purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the
Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Functions. The Presidential Assistant for Food Security and
Agricultural Modernization shall have the following functions:

a) Coordinate and monitor, in conjunction with the National Steering
Committee and Technical Working Group for the National Convergence
Initiative (NCI), all policies, programs, projects and activities relating to the
NCI;

b) Exercise oversight over the National Food Authority (NFA), National
Irrigation Administration (NIA), Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), and
Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) with respect to the implementation
of policies, programs, projects and activities;
c) Submit to the President, through the Executive Secretary, reports and recommendations in connection with his functions set forth herein; and

d) Perform such other functions and activities as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Order, or as may be directed.

SECTION 2. Assistance and Cooperation. The DA, DAR, DENR, NFA, NIA, PCA, FPA, and all other departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned or -controlled corporations, are hereby directed to render full assistance and cooperation to the Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization as may be required to carry out his functions pursuant to this Order. Local government units, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are also encouraged to give assistance as the circumstances may require.

SECTION 3. Effectivity. This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 5th of May, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fourteen.

By the President:

PAQUITO N. OCHOA, JR.  
Executive Secretary