## MALACAÑANG MANILA

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## BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 686

DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A STATE OF PUBLIC CALAMITY IN THE PROVINCES OF ILOILO, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR, BUKIDNON, MAGUINDANAO AND LANAO DEL SUR WHICH ARE BADLY AFFECTED BY DROUGHT.

WHEREAS, according to the Secretary of National Defense, Chairman of the National Disaster Coordinating Council, the prolonged dry spell resulted in massive damage and destruction of rice and corn crops in the aforementioned five provinces; and

WHEREAS, there is urgent need for the declaration of a state of public calamity in the said provinces to enable the government to immediately assist the farmers through the implementation of an agricultural rehabilitation program by the Department of Agriculture as well as relief assistance program by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby proclaim that a state of public calamity exists in the provinces of Iloilo, Zamboanga del Sur, Bukidnon, Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur which are badly affected by drought.

The Secretary of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to release to the Department of Agricuture the sum of \$10 million from the Calamity Fund for rain-making activities and other water-producing/conserving measures to ensure adequate water supply in the drought affected areas.

All departments and other government agencies concerned are hereby directed to implement and execute relief and rehabilitation work in accordance with existing operations plans and directives and orders issued in connection with calamities.

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

Done in the City of Manila, this 6th day of February, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety-one.

pragon b. agin

By the President:

<u>OSCAR M. ORBOS</u> Executive Secretary