



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Natural Resources  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Diliman, Quezon City

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 98  
Series of 1977

SUBJECT: CREATION OF FOREIGN TRADE COORDINATION  
AND OPERATIONS GROUP FOR NATURAL  
RESOURCES-BASED COMMODITIES

In view of the Government's effort for an aggressive foreign trade development and promotion, the need for close coordination between the concerned government agencies and private sector becomes imperative.

In view thereof, and considering that natural resources-based commodities consistently rank among our top ten principal exports, there is hereby created a Foreign Trade Coordination and Operations Group for natural resources-based commodities with the following objectives:

1. To formulate development strategies for the production of our natural resources-based commodities and insure adequate supply and improved terms of trade that could be acquired for the country's exports, through optimized use of our available resources.
2. To develop marketing strategies for each natural resources-based commodity, in support of the Philippine Export Council, aimed at maximizing foreign exchange earnings from better prices and improved terms of trade.
3. To assist exporters of natural resources-based commodities evolve plans of actions with greater flexibility particularly in the face of unsettling world developments.

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4. To assist the private sector and other government agencies in the identification and development of potential markets for traditional and non-traditional exports.
5. To assist concerned government agencies on matters relating to economic and trade negotiations so far as our natural resources maybe affected.

To successfully pursue these objectives, the Group shall function within the following terms of reference:

1. Coordinate with relevant government agencies and the private sector on matters affecting foreign trade policies, trade relations, export promotion programs and export services.
2. Design a system for compiling commodity and country - market profiles and other marketing information vital to the formulation of export strategies, consistent with the National Export Strategy.
3. Evaluate developments in international trade forums and agreements and assess their implications on natural resources-based commodities' foreign trade operations.
4. Design a mechanism for effective collection and analysis of economics and trade statistics relating to natural resources.

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5. Design commodity forecasting models for natural resources-based commodities.
6. Monitor information relating to world trade developments affecting natural resources-based commodities traded abroad as well as from all agencies involved in foreign trade activities.

The group may call upon the different government agencies concerned with foreign trade and other relevant institutions/agencies for such assistance and cooperation necessary to accomplish its task. Travels that maybe required of the group in connection with this task shall be on official time and authority is hereby given for the payment of traveling expenses and allowances as may be permitted by existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

The head of the Group shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Officer-in-Charge of the DNR Planning Service. In this regard, the latter shall institute the most appropriate organizational structure as well as recommend to the Secretary the person/official who shall be designated head of the Group. It is however provided, that the Head of the Group may recruit the necessary personnel, both technical and clerical.

This Order shall take effect immediately until revoked in writing.

By Authority of the Secretary:



J. ANTONIO AGUENZA  
Acting Assistant Secretary