SUBJECT: Declaring and Certifying Certain Portion of the Public Forget as Available for Fish

of the Public Forest as Available for Fishpond Development, Under LC Project No. 34-B of

Balasan, Province of Iloilo.

Pursuant to Section 13 of PC 705, otherwise known as the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, as amended, I hereby declare and certify the portion of the forest land containing an area of 49.0 hectares as available for fishpond development, the administration and management to which is hereby transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Food, through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, located in the aforenamed municipality and province, shown and described per FMB Map LC which is attached hereto and forms an integral part of this Order, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The strips of mangrove or swampland fifty (50) meters wide fronting oceans, lakes and other bodies of water, and the strips of land 20 meters on both sides of river channels/banks and reserved for shoreline and/or bank protection.
- b. The utilization of forest products existing therein shall remain subject to Forest and Internal Revenue Laws and Regulations, and the present holders, if any, of licenses covering such areas that may be occupied for purposes of development under the authorization of the director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, shall have the preferential right in the utilization of the timber hereof.
- c. The areas herein certified and declared as available for fishpond development must be developed or utilized for purposes stated within five (5) years from approval hereof, otherwise the declaration/certification as such is automatically revoked or cancelled pursuant to paragraph 3, Section 43 of PD 705, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall take immediate administration and control over these areas.
- d. Violation of any of the above stated conditions shall constitute as sufficient cause or invalidate this declaration/certification and hence, the subject area shall automatically revert to forest land status without need of further order or declarations.

This Order takes effect immediately.

FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR Secretary