DENR Memorandum Order No. 04 February 02, 1995

SUBJECT: Creation and Constitution of the National Federation of Multisectoral Forest Protection Committees (NFMFPC)

Pursuant to the present policy of the Department to involve other government agencies/instrumentalities, non-government organizations, and communities in forest protection work, and in compliance with the directive of His Excellency president Fidel V. Ramos, contained in his Memorandum of 13 July 1994, to strengthen the capabilities of the various Multisectoral Forest Protection Committees (MFPCs) throughout the country and to institutionalize their presence nationwide, and concomitant with the desire of the existing MFPCs to federate at the national level so as to coordinate and unify their activities, the National Federation of Multisectoral Forest Protection Committees (NFMFPC) was organized upon the joint initiative of the Department and existing MFPCs.

In consonance with the agreements reached during the organizational meeting of the MFMFPC, the following are hereby promulgated for the information ,.: and guidance of all, to wit:

I. FUNCTIONS OF THE NFMFPC

The Federation shall have the following functions:

- 1. Participate in the review of forest and environmental laws and policies, recommend amendments/modifications of same, and advise the DENR Secretary on matters pertaining to forest protection.
- 2. Participate in the periodic performance evaluation of DENR units involved in forest management;
- 3. Assist the various MFPCs in information and education campaigns on forest protection, enforcement of forestry laws and prosecution of violators thereof, and in their strengthening;
- 4. Assist DENR in the generation and prioritization of alternative livelihood programs for persons affected by forest protection campaigns;
- 5. Formulate general guidelines for the organization and operations of MFPCs

and accredit MFPCs subsequently formed;

- 6. Harmonize the resolutions of the different MFPCs and ensure prompt action on them; and
- 7. In general, assist DENR in conducting a sustained national forest protection campaign towards sustainable development.

II. FUNDING AND STAFF SUPPORT

The DENR shall provide the necessary funds to operationalize the NFMFPC. The NFMFPC Coordinating Group, with the Director of the DENR Special Concerns Office as Head, shall provide the necessary staff support for the Federation. With the assistance of the DENR, the Federation may generate funds for its continued and institutionalized operations.

III. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Federation shall be the Chair, the Vice-Chair for Luzon, the Vice-Chair for Visayas and the Vice-Chair for Mindanao, who must all be non-DENR MFPC members. The DENR Secretary becomes ipso facto the NFMFPC Co-Chair. Together, they shall constitute the Executive Committee (EC) of the Federation.

IV. COMMITTEES

The working committees of the NFMFPC shall be the Committee on Policy Review, Committee on Information and Education, Committee on Livelihood, Committee on Legal Affairs, Committee on Law Enforcement and Committee on Finance. Ad-hoc committees may be formed by the EC as are necessary to effectively carry out the Federation's functions.

V. MEETINGS

The NFMFPC shall meet in plenary once a year. The EC shall meet at least quarterly. Special plenary meetings may be conducted as the need arises upon call by the Chair or Co-Chair or upon request of a majority of the members of the Federation or the EC.

VI. ADVISERS

The Secretary of the Department of justice, the Dean of the University of the Philippines-Las Banos (UPLB) College of Forestry, the Heads of the Forest

Products Research and Development Institute and the Philippine Ecological Network shall act as the advisers of the Federation. The Federation may likewise solicit and/or enlist other government officers and/or heads on non-governmental organization to act as advisers.

VII. ADVISORY TO ALL DENR OFFICERS AND/OR PERSONNEL

All DENR offices and/or personnel are hereby directed to fully support the NFMFPC and the MFPCs, including but not limited to providing capable employees to serve in the MFPC Technical Working Groups and logistical support under the appropriate budgetary items of the Department.

VIII. EFFECTIVITY

This Order takes effect immediately.

SO ORDERED.

ANGEL C. ALCALA Secretary