

MALACAÑANG
MANILA

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 698

DECLARING MARCH 10 OF EVERY YEAR AS NATIONAL COOPERATIVES DAY

WHEREAS, Section 23, Article II of the Constitution provides that: "[T]he State shall encourage non-governmental, community-based and sectoral organizations that promote the welfare of the nation;"

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article XII of the Constitution provides that: "[T]he Congress shall create an agency which shall promote the viability and growth of cooperatives which shall serve as instruments for social justice and economic development;"

WHEREAS, in pursuance of said constitutional mandate, Republic Act No. 6938, otherwise known as the Cooperative Code of the Philippines and Republic Act No. 6939, otherwise known as the Cooperative Development Authority, were enacted on March 10, 1990;

WHEREAS, national attention must be focused on Cooperatives as instruments for social justice and economic development by harnessing public support and awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare March 10 of every year as NATIONAL COOPERATIVES DAY.

For this purpose, the Cooperative Development Authority is hereby directed to be the lead agency in undertaking the appropriate activities in celebration thereof.

All Heads of Departments, Offices, Agencies, Local Governments, and Instrumentalities of the government are hereby directed to extend full support and cooperation and contribute their resources to the Cooperative Development Authority in the celebration of the National Cooperatives Day.

All non-governmental Organizations, Cooperatives and the Private Sector are likewise enjoined to lend their utmost support and cooperation in these activities.

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 5th day of March, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety-one.

Prayer B. Aquino

By the President:

[Signature]
OSCAR M. ORBOS

Executive Secretary