

**MALACAÑANG**  
**Manila**

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**PROCLAMATION NO. 183**

**REVOKING PROCLAMATION NO. 66, SERIES OF 1999, DECLARING THE LAHAR-AFFECTED RIVERS AND EMBANKMENT AREAS IN THE PROVINCES OF PAMPANGA, TARLAC AND ZAMBALES AS ENVIRONMENTALLY CRITICAL AREAS AND AS MINERAL RESERVATION UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 66 dated January 11, 1999, declared the lahar-affected rivers and embankment areas in the provinces of Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales as environmentally critical areas and as mineral reservation under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Code of 1991 mandates that local government units shall have an equitable share derived from the utilization and development of the national wealth within their respective areas, including sharing the same with the inhabitants by way of direct benefits;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 66, series of 1999, has virtually deprived the three (3) provinces aforementioned and/or their component cities and municipalities supervision and control over the river systems and embankment areas found within their respective territorial jurisdictions;

**WHEREAS**, sound governance demands that control and supervision over these river systems and the exploitation and utilization of the sand and lahar deposits in the area be returned to the local government units concerned.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby revoke Proclamation No. 66 dated January 11, 1999 and hereby set aside the area covered thereby for public and quasi-public purposes under the provisions of Commonwealth Act No. 141, as amended, subject to private rights, if any there be.



PGMA Outgoing # 10574



The area thus set aside and the disposition of sand and lahar deposits found therein shall be placed under the direct supervision and control of the local government units where part or parts of the reserved area is/are located.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is hereby instructed to issue the necessary guidelines for the implementation of this proclamation, with due regard to the demands of sound environmental management.

This Proclamation shall take effect immediately.

**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 **23<sup>th</sup>** day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand two.

By the President:



  
**ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

