

MALACAÑANG
Manila

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 493

**DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2004 AND EVERY YEAR
THEREAFTER AS COOPERATIVE MONTH**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice as declared in Article 2 of the Cooperative Code of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 69380);

WHEREAS, cooperatives have long played a crucial role in savings mobilization, in providing accessible and affordable credit, and in marshalling the resources and energies of the less economically fortunate towards economic development, political empowerment and socio-cultural reform.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the month of October of 2004 and every year thereafter as *Cooperative Month* to encourage wider participation of all sectors of society in nation-building through cooperativism.

The Cooperative Development Authority shall, in coordination with other agencies of government, primary cooperatives, local, regional and national federations and union of cooperatives and the cooperative development councils, initiate activities and programs within the month to raise the consciousness of our people to join the cooperative movement and uphold the principles and values of cooperativism.

This supersedes Proclamation No. 2288 dated November 10, 1982.

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 29th day of *October*, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

Gloria Arroyo

By the President:

Alberto G. Romulo
ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary

