WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture has adopted the policy to bring the rental rate of fishponds covered by Fishpond Lease Agreements to a basis that reflects the appropriate economic value derived from said fishpond areas;

WHEREAS, it is the objective of the Department of Agriculture that through such policy of charging the appropriate economic rent, land speculation will be effectively discouraged and corollarily hasten the productivity improvement of these fishpond areas;

WHEREAS, in recognition of this policy and objective of the Department of Agriculture, Sections 5 and 6 of FAO 125 were revised under FAO 125-1, series of 1991, thereby changing the rental of fishponds covered by Fishpond Lease Agreements from P50 to P1,000 per hectare per year, effective January 1, 1992;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Federation of Fishfarm Producers, Inc. has made representations with the Department of Agriculture that some segments of the industry will find it difficult to comply with this new rental rate;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Department of Agriculture adopts the position that to mitigate the impact of this new rental rate on the industry, the P1,000.00 rental per hectare per year shall be implemented on a staggered basis over a three year period and therefore Section 2 of FAO 125-1, series of 1991, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. Rental, when due and payable. - Starting January 1, 1992 until December 31, 1992, the annual rental shall be at the rate of Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00) per hectare or a fraction thereof, payable semi-annually; starting January 1, 1993 until December 31, 1993 the annual rental shall be at the rate of Six Hundred
Pesos (₱600.00) per hectare or a fraction thereof, payable semi-annually; and thereafter, from January 1, 1994 the annual rental shall be at the rate of One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) per hectare or a fraction thereof, payable semi-annually."

This Order shall take effect immediately after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Issued this 20th day of December, 1991.

Recommended by:

NATIVIDAD M. LAGUA
Officer-in-Charge
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources