SUBJECT: Rules and regulations governing the issuance of permit for the exportation of live mud crabs or "alimango" (Scylla serrata).

Pursuant to Sections 4, 7 and 18 of Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended, otherwise known as the "Fisheries Decree of 1975", the following rules and regulations governing the issuance of permit for the exportation of live mud crabs or "alimango" (Scylla serrata) are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. Definition. - For purposes of this Order, mud crab or "alimango" (Scylla serrata) is a crab of the family Portunidae with an elliptically depressed carapace, broader than it is long, with a well-defined serrate anterior margin and the last pair of periopods of which are broad and flattened at the end.

SEC. 2. Prohibition. - It shall be unlawful for any person, natural or juridical, to export or cause to be exported, live mud crabs measuring less than ten (10) centimeters (carapace length) and weighing less than two hundred (200) grams.

SEC. 3. Permit. - No person shall export live mud crabs without a permit duly issued by the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources or his duly authorized representatives.

SEC. 4. Qualified applicants. -

a) Citizens of the Philippines.

b) Corporations duly registered in accordance with Philippine laws at least 60% of the capital stock of which is owned by Filipino citizens.
SEC. 5. Filing of application. - An application to export live mud crabs shall be filed with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources upon payment of an application fee of ₱10.00 in cash or in check payable to the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. No applications are transferable.

SEC. 6. Issuance of permit. - A permit to export live mud crabs may be issued to any qualified person upon payment of a permit fee in the amount of ₱50.00. The permit is non-transferable.

SEC. 7. Duration of permit. - Permits issued under this Order shall expire thirty (30) days from the issuance thereof. An unused permit shall be considered automatically cancelled: Provided, That a new permit may be issued in lieu of the unused, partially used, or expired permit upon request.

SEC. 8. Inspection, Quality Control and other administrative and technical services in the exportation of live mud crab. - Live mud crabs shall, before exportation, be presented by the exporter to the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources or his duly authorized representative for inspection, quality control and such other administrative and technical services as may be necessary together with a copy of the Export Declaration and other required documents. If upon inspection the live crabs sought to be exported do not meet the quality requirements prescribed by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources or prohibited fish or fishery/aquatic products are found included in the exportation, the same shall be removed immediately and in case of the latter, confiscated, and the exporter shall, in addition, be penalized in accordance with the penal provision of this Order.

SEC. 9. Penal provision. - Any violation of this Order shall subject the offender to a fine of from Five Hundred Pesos (₱500.00) to Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) or imprisonment from six (6) months to four (4) years or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the Court. Provided, That the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is hereby empowered to impose upon the offender an administrative fine of not more than Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00), cancel his permit and/or confiscate the live mud crabs in favor of the Bureau without prejudice to any judicial action that may be taken against the offender.
SEC. 10. Repealing clause. - All existing administrative orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. - This Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

RAMON V. MITRA
Minister
Ministry of Agriculture and Food

RECOMMENDED BY:

JUANITO B. MAHIC
Director
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources