SUBJECT: Rules and regulations governing the operation of "Hulbot-hulbot" in Philippine waters.

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 4 and 7 of Presidential Decree No. 704, otherwise known as the "Fisheries Decree of 1975", for the protection and conservation of fishery resources of the Philippines, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. Definitions. - For the purpose of this Order, the following terms shall be construed as follows:

(a) Hulbot-hulbot (Pahulbot-hulbot/Palisot/Pasangko/Bira-bira/Hulahoop) - refers to a fishing gear consisting of a conical shape net with a pair of wings, the ends of which are connected to two ropes with buri, plastic strips or any similar materials to serve as scaring/herding device with hauling ropes passing through a metallic ring permanently attached to a tom weight (linggote) when hauled into a fishing boat.

(b) Person - refers to natural or juridical.

(c) Director - refers to the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

SEC. 2. - Prohibition. - It shall be unlawful for any person to operate hulbot-hulbot using fine meshed net less than 3 centimeters and fishing boats more than 3 gross tons within a distance of seven (7) kms. from the shorelines of all coastal provinces of the Philippines: Provided, however, that provinces comprising of several islands or islets, 7-kilometer distance shall be measured perpendicularly.
from the shorelines of such islands or islets: Provided,
further, That in islands or islets where the distance
between or among them is 14 kilometers or less, the same
shall be treated as one island or islet and the 7-kilometer
distance shall be reckoned from the outer shorelines of such
group of islands or islets.

SEC. 3. Penalty. - Violation of any provision of
this Order shall subject the offender to a fine of not less
than Five Hundred Pesos (₱500.00) to not more than Five
Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00) or imprisonment from six (6)
months to four (4) years, or both, such fine and imprison-
ment at the discretion of the Court: Provided, however, That
the Director is hereby empowered to impose upon the offender
an administrative fine of not more than Five Thousand Pesos
(₱5,000.00).

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. - All administrative orders,
rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent
with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. - This Administrative Order shall
take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
Official Gazette and/or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ
Secretary
Department of Agriculture

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL:

JUANITO B. MALIC
Director
Bureau of Fisheries and
Aquatic Resources