MALACAÑANG MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

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PROCLAMATION NO. 551

DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A STATE OF PUBLIC CALAMITY IN THE PROVINCES
OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AND ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR WHICH ARE BADLY
AFFECTED BY DROUGHT.

WHEREAS, according to the Secretary of National Defense, Chairman of the National Disaster Coordinating Council, some 16,823 hectares of agricultural land planted to rice, corn and legumes were damaged with an estimated production loss of about \$\mathbb{P}27.153\$ million and affecting about 5,218 families whose main source of livelihood is farming; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the declaration of a state of public calamity in the said provinces to enable the government to provide additional measures that will assist the farmers through the implementation of an agricultural rehabilitation program by the Department of Agriculture as well as relief assistance program by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby proclaim that a state of public calamity exists in the provinces of Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur which are badly affected by drought.

All departments and other government agencies concerned are hereby directed to implement and execute relief and rehabilitation work in accordance with existing operational plans and directives and orders issued in connection with calamities.

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 11th day of April, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety.

pragon b. aquint

By the President:

CATALINO MACARAIG, JR. Executive Secretary