



1 (b) Provide a conducive environment to the local assembling and  
2 manufacturing of engines, machinery and equipment for agricultural and  
3 fisheries production, processing and marketing;

4 (c) Ensure the quality and safety of machineries and equipment locally  
5 manufactured or imported by strengthening regulation through the  
6 development and enforcement of machinery and machine performance  
7 standards, regular testing and evaluation, registration, and the accreditation and  
8 classification of suppliers, assemblers and manufacturers to ensure compliance  
9 to prescribed quality standards;

10 (d) Strengthen support services like credit facilities, research, training  
11 and extension programs, rural infrastructures, post harvest facilities and  
12 marketing services;

13 (e) Unify, rationalize and strengthen the implementation, coordination  
14 of activities and mechanisms on agricultural and fisheries mechanization  
15 programs and projects; and

16 (f) Deliver integrated support services to farmers, fisherfolk and other  
17 stakeholders, and assist them to be able to viably operate and manage their  
18 agricultural and fisheries mechanization projects.

19 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* -- The following terms shall be defined as  
20 follows:

21 (a) *Agricultural and fisheries machinery* refers to machinery and  
22 equipment for the production, harvesting, processing, storage, manufacture,  
23 preserving, transporting and distribution of agricultural and fisheries products.  
24 It includes, but is not limited to, tractors and their attachments, power tillers,  
25 seeders, transplanters, windmills, harvesting machines, crop protection and  
26 maintenance equipment, irrigation equipment and accessories, greenhouses and  
27 other thermal conditioning equipment, livestock equipment, fishery equipment,  
28 slaughtering equipment, meat/fishery and crop processing equipment, post

1 harvest machines such as milling machines, dryer, threshers, grain and other  
2 strippers, agricultural transport machinery and storage facilities including cold  
3 storage, reefer vans, slaughter houses and fishing boats of three (3) gross tons  
4 or less. New agricultural and fishery machinery includes newly imported as  
5 well as one that has not been used since its date of manufacture.

6 (b) *Agricultural and fisheries mechanization* refers to the development,  
7 adoption, assembly, manufacture and application of appropriate, location-  
8 specific and cost-effective agricultural and fisheries machinery using human,  
9 animal, mechanical, electrical, renewable and other nonconventional sources of  
10 energy for agricultural production and postharvest/postproduction operations  
11 consistent with agronomic conditions and for efficient and economic farm and  
12 fishery management towards modernization of agriculture and fisheries.

13 (c) *Agro-industrial processing* refers to the local activity or series of  
14 activities to maintain or raise the quality or change the form or characteristics  
15 of agricultural, fisheries and forestry products. It also includes, but not limited  
16 to, cleaning, sorting, grading, mixing, milling, canning, dressing, slaughtering,  
17 freezing, pasteurizing, conditioning, packaging, repacking and transporting of  
18 said products.

19 (d) *Fishing boat* refers to any boat, ship or other watercraft of three (3)  
20 gross tons or less, equipped to be used for taking of fishery species or aiding or  
21 assisting one (1) or more vessels in the performance of any activity relating to  
22 fishing including, but not limited to, preservation, supply, storage,  
23 refrigeration, transportation and/or processing.

24 SEC. 4. *Scope and Application.* – The provision of this Act shall  
25 apply to the research, development and extension, promotion, distribution,  
26 supply, assembling, manufacturing, regulation, use, operation, maintenance  
27 and project implementation of agricultural and fisheries machinery and  
28 equipment.

## ARTICLE II

## THE NATIONAL AGRI-FISHERY MECHANIZATION PROGRAM

SEC. 5. *The National Agri-fishery Mechanization Program.* – There shall be formulated a National Agri-fishery Mechanization Program by the Department of Agriculture (DA) with the following objectives:

(a) Promote and support through the provision of research grants, credit, transparent and predictable regulation, the local development and manufacture of agricultural and fisheries machinery by the private sector;

(b) Unify, lead and support the efforts of various institutions in the research, design and development of agricultural and fisheries machinery;

(c) Establish quality, safety and performance standards for agricultural and fisheries machinery;

(d) Support the establishment of quality, safety and performance testing centers for the certification of agricultural and fisheries machinery in strategic localities in the country;

(e) Establish guidelines for the registration of ownership of agricultural and fisheries machinery; and

(f) Promote the adoption of certified agricultural and fisheries machinery for improving agriculture and fishery productivity.

SEC. 6. *Program Implementation.* – The overall implementation of the National Agri-fishery Mechanization Program shall be coordinated by the DA through the Undersecretary duly designated by the Secretary who shall:

(a) Conduct the formulation and review of the five (5)-year National Agri-fishery Mechanization Program for the DA;

(b) Provide leadership in the formulation of guidelines for the registration of ownership of agricultural and fisheries machinery;

(c) Ensure the formulation of quality, safety and performance standards for agricultural and fisheries machinery;

1 (d) Ensure the formulation of accreditation guidelines for testing  
2 centers for agricultural and fisheries machinery;

3 (e) Formulate and enforce guidelines for the credit program to include,  
4 but not limited to, access, disbursement and repayment;

5 (f) Oversee the implementation of the National Agri-fishery  
6 Mechanization Program by the various units of the Department; and

7 (g) Coordinate with other government agencies and local government  
8 units (LGUs) in the implementation of measures provided for in this Act.

### 9 ARTICLE III

#### 10 RESEARCH, EXTENSION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

11 SEC. 7. *Unified National Research and Development (R&D) and*  
12 *Extension Agenda.* – A unified National Agricultural and Fisheries  
13 Mechanization Research and Development and Extension (RDE) Agenda shall  
14 be formulated and implemented by the DA: *Provided,* That the DA, through  
15 the Philippine Center for Post Harvest Development and Mechanization  
16 (PHilMech) as focal agency, shall integrate and unify all agricultural and  
17 fisheries mechanization RDE programs and projects of all concerned national  
18 government agencies, LGUs, state colleges and universities which shall be  
19 geared towards development of machineries and equipment, job generation,  
20 address market and industry demands and help accelerate agricultural and  
21 fisheries modernization in the countryside.

22 The National Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization RDE Agenda  
23 shall include, but not be limited, to the following:

24 (a) Development, pilot-testing and commercialization of appropriate,  
25 location-specific and cost-effective agricultural and fisheries machinery and  
26 equipment in support to contiguous farming and machinery pooling;

27 (b) Design and testing of new machineries and equipment for  
28 agriculture and fisheries;

1 (c) Local manufacture and assembly of agricultural engines and  
2 equipment;

3 (d) Development and utilization of renewable and nonconventional  
4 energy resources such as wind, biomass, hydro, solar and biofuels for  
5 agricultural and fisheries equipment and machineries;

6 (e) Development of efficient production and postproduction  
7 mechanization systems;

8 (f) Continuous development of technical standards and testing  
9 procedures for quality agricultural machinery and components;

10 (g) Training of farmers, fisherfolk, manufacturers, extension workers,  
11 agricultural engineers, technicians, and operators engaged in the agricultural  
12 and fisheries mechanization;

13 (h) Promotion of technologies through agricultural and industrial  
14 extension activities and techno-demo centers;

15 (i) Development of prototype and fabrication of agricultural machinery  
16 and equipment; and

17 (j) Development and conduct of commercialization strategies  
18 involving all sectors representing the demand and supply sides of agricultural  
19 and fisheries mechanization technologies.

20 SEC. 8. *Agri-fisheries Mechanization RDE Network.* – An Agricultural  
21 and Fisheries Mechanization RDE network is hereby organized composed of  
22 research and educational institutions, LGUs, nongovernment organizations and  
23 the recognized and well-established associations of agricultural and fisheries  
24 machinery assemblers, manufacturers and distributors, agricultural engineers,  
25 farmers and fisherfolk. The Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization RDE  
26 Network is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the National  
27 Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization RDE Agenda. The PHilMech shall  
28 be responsible for organizing the network and shall serve as secretariat to the

1 Network. The Network shall be chaired by the Director of the PHilMech.  
2 Moreover, the Agricultural Mechanization Development Program of the  
3 University of the Philippines, Los Baños (UPLB), which is part of the Network  
4 shall be strengthened and institutionalized to lead and coordinate the  
5 agricultural and fishery mechanization RDE program of all academic  
6 institutions in the country.

7 *SEC. 9. Agri-fisheries Machinery and Equipment Service Centers.*

8 – The DA and the LGUs shall encourage and support the private sector and  
9 other rural entrepreneurs to establish and operate agricultural and fishery  
10 machinery and equipment service centers in the Strategic Agricultural and  
11 Fishery Development Zones (SAFDZs) and Agrarian Reform Communities.  
12 The Agri-fisheries Machinery and Equipment Service Centers shall be  
13 operated as business enterprises that will provide the following services:

- 14 (a) After-sales service and warranty to their respective clients;  
15 (b) Custom plowing, harrowing, harvesting, drying, milling and other  
16 farm mechanization services;  
17 (c) Repair and troubleshooting services of agricultural and fishery  
18 machinery and equipment; and  
19 (d) Training of maintenance and proper use of agricultural machineries  
20 and equipment.

21 However, ownership and operation of Agri-fisheries Machinery and  
22 Equipment Service Centers shall not be the exclusive domain of equipment and  
23 machineries suppliers. These may be owned and operated by registered  
24 cooperatives or by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by the  
25 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) registered businesses.

1           SEC. 10. *Agri-fisheries Mechanization and Engineering Resource*  
2 *Network.* – The existing agricultural machinery information and data base of  
3 the PHilMech shall be strengthened into an agri-fishery mechanization and  
4 engineering resource network. It will also be used or tapped as a facility for  
5 the online registration of agri-fisheries machinery and equipment, and  
6 monitoring of agri-fisheries mechanization and infrastructure projects. This  
7 network shall be linked to other existing information and data base networks of  
8 the DA, the Agricultural Machinery Information Network of the Department of  
9 Science and Technology (DOST), the Agricultural Mechanization  
10 Development Program of the UPLB and of other government agencies.

11           SEC. 11. *Research Grants.* – To enhance research and technological  
12 development on agricultural and fisheries mechanization, the government  
13 through the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) of the DA, the DOST and  
14 the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall provide competitive  
15 research grants to members of the Network to undertake needs-oriented  
16 research as well as institutional development and upgrading of laboratory  
17 facilities and equipment.

18           SEC. 12. *Training and Scholarship Program.* – The DA, in  
19 partnership with the State Colleges and Universities (SUCs) and the private  
20 sector, shall train the agricultural extension workers of the LGUs who in turn  
21 shall train the farmers and fisherfolk on agricultural and fisheries  
22 mechanization technologies and practices. The Department of Labor and  
23 Employment (DOLE) and the Technical Education and Skills Development  
24 Authority (TESDA) shall be responsible in the training of agricultural and  
25 fisheries machinery technicians and operators. Furthermore, scholarships for  
26 graduate and undergraduate degree on agricultural engineering and  
27 trade/vocational courses on agricultural and fisheries mechanization shall be  
28 given priority by the DA, the CHED and the DOST.







1 models and design. Field tests shall likewise be undertaken by the AMTEC to  
2 ensure consistent quality of test units as well as on the commercial units.  
3 The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Products Standards (BAFPS) shall  
4 maintain a certification registry of equipment and machinery as well as a  
5 registry of those denied certification.

6         SEC. 19. *Registration of Ownership of Agricultural and Fishery*  
7 *Machinery and Equipment.* – All owners of agricultural and fishery  
8 machinery and equipment must register these with the agriculture offices of  
9 municipal and city government units.

10         The agriculture offices of the LGUs shall establish and maintain a  
11 registry of agricultural and fishery machinery at the municipal, city and  
12 provincial levels. The DA Regional Agricultural Engineering Division shall  
13 maintain a registry of agricultural and fishery machinery at the regional office  
14 whereas the BAFPS shall maintain a national database of all registered  
15 agricultural and fishery machinery. Each office shall ensure that these  
16 registries and databases are available through the internet.

17         The Secretary shall promulgate national guidelines and procedures for  
18 the registration of agricultural and fisheries machinery by the LGUs including  
19 the collection of registration fees in accordance with the Local Government  
20 Code.

21         SEC. 20. *Registration of Manufacturers, Fabricators, Assemblers and*  
22 *Importers.* – Within six (6) months upon the enactment of this Act, all  
23 manufacturers, fabricators, assemblers and importers must register with the  
24 BAFPS.

25         Three (3) years upon the enactment of this Act, registrants must provide  
26 certification by an accredited certifying body of all products that they have in  
27 the market or intend to market and withdraw all products that have no  
28 certification. One (1) year after the enactment of this Act, the registrants must

1 submit to the BAFPS the list of equipment/machineries manufactured/  
2 fabricated/assembled/imported.

3       SEC. 21. *Standards Development and Enforcement.* – The DA,  
4 through the BAFPS, in coordination with the DTI, the DOST, the BoAE and  
5 the AMTEC, and in consultation with the accredited associations of farmers  
6 and fisherfolk, agricultural machinery assemblers, manufacturers and  
7 distributors and agricultural engineers shall develop standards specifications  
8 and test procedures of agricultural and fishery machinery. These standards  
9 should be in conformity with the International Standards Organization (ISO)  
10 and shall be part of the existing Philippine Agricultural Engineering Standards  
11 (PAES).

12       Thereafter, the DA and the LGUs and in collaboration with the BoAE  
13 shall enforce the above standards on the manufacture, sale and distribution of  
14 agriculture and fisheries machinery and equipment, and its accreditation system  
15 for agricultural and fisheries facilities and establishments.

16       The Secretary shall deputize the agriculture offices of the LGUs to  
17 monitor the implementation of regulation concerning certification, registration  
18 of manufacturers, assemblers, dealers or importers and accreditation of  
19 agricultural and fishery machinery testing centers.

20       Also, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the  
21 local building officials, consistent with the provisions of Republic Act  
22 No. 8559, otherwise known as the “Philippine Agricultural Engineering Act of  
23 1998”, and in coordination with the agriculture offices of the LGUs shall  
24 enforce the PAES as part of the implementation of the National Building Code  
25 of the Philippines particularly in the design, construction, operation and  
26 maintenance of agricultural and fisheries buildings and structures.



1           SEC. 24. *Strengthening the DA Agricultural and Fishery Engineering*  
2 *Groups.* - Pursuant to Section 46 of Republic Act No. 8435, otherwise known  
3 as the "Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997", a Bureau of  
4 Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE) is hereby created as one of the  
5 regular service of the DA which shall be under the supervision of the DA  
6 Undersecretary and shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

7           (a) Coordinate, oversee and monitor the national planning and  
8 implementation of agri-fisheries engineering, farm-to-market road and other  
9 agri-fisheries infrastructure projects;

10          (b) Assist in the national planning, coordination and implementation  
11 of the national agri-fisheries mechanization programs;

12          (c) Prepare, evaluate, validate and recommend engineering plans,  
13 designs and technical specifications on agri-fisheries mechanization and  
14 infrastructure projects;

15          (d) Oversee and provide technical assistance to the operations of the  
16 agricultural engineering divisions of the DA regional field units;

17          (e) Coordinate and integrate all agricultural and fisheries engineering  
18 activities of the DA bureaus, attached agencies and corporations; and

19          (f) Coordinate and monitor the enforcement of standards and other  
20 regulatory policies on agricultural and fishery engineering.

21           Likewise, modifications shall be made in the staffing pattern of the  
22 regional field units of the DA to strengthen the provision of agricultural  
23 engineering services necessary to carry out the field implementation of the  
24 agricultural and fishery engineering, mechanization and infrastructure  
25 programs and projects of the DA.

26           All concerned bureaus and attached agencies of the DA implementing  
27 agri-fishery mechanization and infrastructure projects shall review and modify  
28 their organizational structure and staffing pattern with the end-view of

1 strengthening the provision of agricultural engineering services as part of the  
2 overall network of the BAFE.

3       SEC. 25. *Philippine Center for Post Harvest Development and*  
4 *Mechanization (PHILMECH).* – The PHILMECH shall coordinate, plan and  
5 execute agricultural and fishery mechanization and post harvest RDE programs  
6 and projects of the DA.

7       SEC. 26. *Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Products Standards.*  
8 – The BAFPS, in addition to its functions under Sections 62 and 63 of  
9 Republic Act No. 8435 shall:

10       (a) Implement accreditation and registration scheme for agriculture  
11 and fishery machinery, tools and equipment in coordination with the  
12 technology generators;

13       (b) Develop standards for agriculture and fishery machinery, tools and  
14 equipment in coordination with accredited testing centers, and other concerned  
15 government and private entities; and

16       (c) Issue permits to operate to agriculture and fishery, tools and  
17 equipment manufacturers, fabrication, assemblers and importers.

18       The BAFPS is hereby renamed into Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries  
19 Standards (BAFS) and authorized to create a new division on agricultural and  
20 fisheries machinery regulations. It may call upon experts, professional groups  
21 and other government agencies to assist in the performance of its functions.

22       SEC. 27. *Agricultural Machinery Testing and Evaluation Centers*  
23 *(AMTEC).* – The AMTEC of the College of Engineering and Agro-Industrial  
24 Technology (CEAT) of the UPLB is hereby institutionalized. The AMTEC is  
25 hereby designated as the premier and reference testing center in the country,  
26 and for purposes of functional coordination and integration, shall closely  
27 coordinate its activities with the BAFPS. As the premier testing center, it shall  
28 assist the BAFPS in the formulation of quality, safety and performance

1 standards of agricultural and fisheries machinery and of accreditation  
2 guidelines for testing centers. It shall also provide technical assistance in the  
3 establishment of testing centers in other parts of the country.

#### 4 ARTICLE VII

##### 5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

###### 6 SEC. 28. *Implementation by the Local Government Units (LGUs).*

7 – The LGUs, pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise  
8 known as the “Local Government Code of 1991”, shall undertake applied  
9 research, extension, dispersal, management and regulation of agricultural and  
10 fisheries machinery and equipment including the collection of fees.

11 SEC. 29. *Strengthening the Agricultural Engineering Groups of the*  
12 *Local Government Units.* -- The division/section of the agriculture offices of  
13 the LGUs organized under Executive Order No. 86, Series of 1999 and Section  
14 46 of Republic Act No. 8435 shall serve as the planning, coordinating,  
15 regulating and implementing bodies at the provincial, city and municipal levels  
16 on agricultural and fisheries engineering, mechanization and infrastructure  
17 programs and projects and shall have the following functions and  
18 responsibilities:

19 (a) Provide agricultural engineering services which include engineering  
20 survey, preparation and evaluation of plans, designs, technical specifications,  
21 feasibility studies and cost estimates/program of work of irrigation, small water  
22 impounding, soil conservation and management, farm machinery,  
23 slaughterhouses, poultry dressing plants, post harvest facilities, auction  
24 markets, farm-to-market roads and other agricultural and fisheries  
25 infrastructure projects of the LGUs;

26 (b) Administer, supervise and coordinate the construction, operation,  
27 maintenance, improvement and management of irrigation, small water  
28 impounding, soil and water conservation structures and facilities, farm



1 machinery, post harvest facilities, auction markets, farm-to-market roads and  
2 other agricultural and fisheries infrastructure projects of the LGUs;

3 (c) Undertake the registration of agri-fishery machinery and facilities,  
4 enforcement of the PAES and other agricultural and fishery engineering  
5 regulatory activities in coordination and collaboration with the concerned  
6 national government agencies;

7 (d) Coordinate with the concerned national government agencies with  
8 regards to the implementation of national government programs and projects  
9 on irrigation, farm mechanization, post harvest facilities, farm-to-market roads  
10 and agricultural and fisheries infrastructure;

11 (e) Be in the frontline of the delivery of basic agricultural engineering  
12 services;

13 (f) Provide training and extension activities to farmers and fisherfolk  
14 particularly in the installation, operation and maintenance of their irrigation,  
15 post harvest facilities, agricultural and fishery machinery projects in  
16 coordination with the agriculture and fisheries extension workers;

17 (g) Undertake and/or coordinate the pilot testing and  
18 commercialization of matured agricultural and fisheries engineering  
19 technologies; and

20 (h) Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and  
21 functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

22 To effectively carry out the above functions and responsibilities, the  
23 division of the provincial and city agriculture offices, and agricultural  
24 engineering section in the municipal agriculture offices are hereby  
25 strengthened and institutionalized into the organizational structure of the  
26 LGUs, and if not yet existing, shall be created in the particular LGUs. The  
27 LGUs belonging to the first up to the third income classes which are providing  
28 or implementing agricultural and fishery infrastructure, mechanization and

1 engineering projects shall hire at least one (1) agricultural engineer at the  
2 provincial, city and municipal levels.

3 In cases of provincial, city and municipal LGUs belonging to the fourth  
4 up to the sixth income classes which are not capable to establish its agricultural  
5 engineering division/section due to financial constraints and limitations, the  
6 DA through its regional agricultural engineering divisions shall augment and  
7 perform such responsibilities and, as deemed necessary, establish its  
8 provincial, city and municipal operation units, and shall be allocated and  
9 provided with necessary funding and manpower requirements for their  
10 operation.

### 11 ARTICLE VIII

#### 12 PROHIBITED ACTS, PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS

13 SEC. 30. *Prohibited Acts.* – It is unlawful for any person to:

14 (a) Sell, mortgage or lease agricultural and fishery machinery without  
15 being registered with the BAFPS;

16 (b) Sell new agricultural and fishery machinery without warranty or  
17 after-sales service;

18 (c) Claim ownership to an agricultural and fishery machinery that has  
19 not been properly registered in his/her name; and

20 (d) Operate a testing center without proper accreditation.

21 SEC. 31. *Penalties.* – Any person who shall violate any provision of  
22 this Act shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than One  
23 thousand pesos (P1,000.00) but not more than Ten thousand pesos  
24 (P10,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not more  
25 than one (1) year, or both, upon the discretion of the court and/or other  
26 applicable penalties imposed under the “Consumer Act of the Philippines”.

27 The purchase of noncertified or substandard agricultural and fishery  
28 machinery for the government shall be dealt with the “Corrupt Practices Act”.



1           SEC. 34. *Contiguous Farming.* -- The DA, together with the  
2 Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), shall carry out contiguous farming  
3 projects in order to effect suitable field shapes and sizes conducive to efficient  
4 operation of agricultural machinery and equipment and likewise to ensure its  
5 economies of scale.

6           The contiguous farming projects shall:

7           (a) Promote farm land clustering with a minimum of fifty (50)-hectare  
8 cluster for synchronized farming operations from land preparation to  
9 harvesting in cooperation or contract with agricultural mechanized operation  
10 service providers;

11           (b) Undertake farm development planning; and

12           (c) Promote the strengthening of farmers cooperatives and associations.

13           SEC. 35. *Use of Renewable Energy.* -- The use of renewable and  
14 nonconventional energy such as wind, solar, hydro, biomass and other  
15 farm-based energy sources shall be promoted as power sources for the  
16 operation and maintenance of agricultural and fisheries machinery. The DA, in  
17 coordination with the Department of Energy (DOE), the DOST and the state  
18 colleges and universities, and the private sector shall undertake research and  
19 extension activities to enhance the use of renewable and nonconventional  
20 energy in agricultural and fisheries operations.

21           SEC. 36. *Infrastructure Support.* -- The government shall provide  
22 priority investment for the infrastructure needs in clustered farm land identified  
23 as key agricultural and fishery production areas to accelerate agricultural and  
24 fisheries mechanization in the countryside and this include, irrigation,  
25 farm-to-market roads, post harvest, power and communications facilities.

1           SEC. 37. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DA, within  
2 six (6) months upon the enactment of this Act and in consultation with the  
3 stakeholders and other government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary  
4 rules and regulations to implement this Act.

5           SEC. 38. *Funding.* – The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in  
6 the DA's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
7 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

8           The DA shall likewise set aside funds from the Agricultural  
9 Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF) for grants to upgrade the  
10 AMTEC and to establish one (1) testing center in Visayas and one (1) testing  
11 center in Mindanao.

12           The BAR shall allocate funds annually from its regular R&D funds to  
13 support research programs, processing of patent applications, and testing and  
14 certification of locally designed agri-fisheries equipment and machineries.

15           All LGUs shall include in their investment plans, as part of the priority  
16 appropriations for local development fund, the funding support for the  
17 implementation of their respective provincial, city, municipal and barangay  
18 agricultural and fisheries mechanization programs in accordance with Republic  
19 Act No. 7160 and its implementing rules and regulations and the Department  
20 of the Interior and Local Government-Department of Budget and Management  
21 (*DILG-DBM Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2005*).

22           The CHED shall allocate funds from the Higher Education  
23 Development Fund necessary for the upgrading of agri-fishery mechanization  
24 laboratory facilities of concerned state colleges and universities, faculty  
25 training program and scholarships.

26           The TESDA shall likewise allocate funds from its annual appropriations  
27 necessary for the skills certification and training program for agri-fishery  
28 machinery technicians and operators.

1           SEC. 39. *Congressional Oversight Committee.* – The Congressional  
2 Oversight Committee on Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization (COCAFAM)  
3 shall be the congressional oversight committee for purposes of this Act.

4           SEC. 40. *Separability Clause.* – The provisions of this Act are  
5 hereby declared separable and if any clause, sentence, provision or section  
6 hereof should be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other  
7 provisions of this Act which can be given force and effect without the  
8 provisions which have been declared invalid.

9           SEC. 41. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders  
10 and other administrative issuances and parts thereof which are inconsistent  
11 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

12           SEC. 42. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
13 days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

O