

**DENR Memorandum Order**  
**No. 97-02**  
**May 23, 1997**

**SUBJECT : Interim Guidelines in the Conduct of Watershed Characterization Survey and Preparation of Watershed Management Plan**

Pursuant to PD 705 as amended and Executive Order No. 192 mandating the DENR to protect, rehabilitate/develop and sustainably manage the country's natural resources including watershed areas, and pending the formulation of final manual/guidelines by the Watershed Management Improvement Component of the Water Resources Development Project, this interim guidelines is hereby issued in watershed characterization and the preparation of corresponding Watershed Management Plans for the information and guidance of all concerned.

1. All proclaimed watershed reservations and identified critical watersheds shall be managed under the concept of sustained yield and multiple-use. For this purpose, comprehensive management plans shall be prepared based on the following guidelines:
  - a. The Watershed Characterization Survey shall be conducted by the concerned Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO). Watershed characterization (survey report) shall contain a thorough presentation of biophysical and socio-economic information describing the watershed and shall follow the attached outline marked as "Annex A" which forms part of this Order.
  - b. The Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan shall be composed of two (2) major parts, the watershed characterization/profile and the management plan proper

following the attached outline marked as "Annex B" which forms part of this Order.

- c. Watershed Management Strategies or Action Plan shall be formulated based on the analysis of the data presented in the watershed characterization report/watershed profile.
2. All orders or instructions inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.
3. This Memorandum Order takes effect immediately.

**(Sgd.) VIRGILIO Q. MARCELO**  
Undersecretary

Recommending Approval:

**BAYANI S. NERA**  
Assistant Director  
In-Charge, Office of the Director