Republika ng Pilipinas PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG (National Irrigation Administration) Lungsod ng Quezon

MC No. <u>37</u>, s. 1993

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

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Reed File

> : Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrators, Regional Irrigation Managers, Operations Managers, Project Managers, Irrigation Superintendents, Provincial Irrigation Officers and All Others Concerned

SUBJECT : POLICY DIRECTIONS/GUIDELINES ON IA COOPERATIVES ORGANIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE

Relative to the policy direction on the organization, development and assistance of IA cooperatives, the following guidelines are hereby issued.

- 1. In existing irrigation areas, the identity of the IAs must be retained even with the organization of cooperatives. As such, a scheme of co-existence and complementation of efforts involving both the IAs and cooperatives should be pursued.
- 2. In new areas, farmer-beneficiaries should first be organized and developed into IAs following NIA's participatory approach processes primarily focusing on systems' O & M responsibilities before they venture into cooperatives after achieving the desired level of organizational, operational and financial vability and maturity. Again, even with the formation of cooperatives, the IAs recognition as parallel organizations must be maintained.
- 3. The initiative of going into cooperatives must emanate from the IAs themselves, a manifestation of their natural course of development. NIA, however, should provide necessary support and assistance to achieve the IAs cooperative intention.

For your guidance.

(SGD.) APOLONIO V. BAUTISTA Administrator

August 3, 1993