

Administrative
Bulletin
No. 324

EXECUTIVE ORDER
Creating the Agricultural Council

WHEREAS, it has been decided to concentrate even greater efforts on Puerto Rico's agricultural development—indispensable to the welfare of the country and to the development of a sound and well-balanced economy;

WHEREAS, the official agricultural activities that are undertaken in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are carried out by several agencies of the said Commonwealth and of the United States Government;

WHEREAS, the best utilization of the resources available for the support and promotion of agricultural development in Puerto Rico requires that the functions of the agencies concerned therewith be performed in a coordinated manner directed to a common purpose, each agency contributing in its special field the knowledge, experience, and action that make possible the formulation and adequate development of the programs;

NOW THEREFORE, the Governor of Puerto Rico, by virtue of his duty to supervise the work of the Secretaries of his cabinet and other executive officers, that their work may be in harmony with the task of all the organizations working in the field of agriculture, does hereby create an Agricultural Council, whose purpose shall be to coordinate all the objectives, programs, and activities of public organizations in the field of agriculture.

(1) The general function of the Council shall be to consider all such matters related to agriculture as it may deem necessary. The Council shall have the following specific functions:

- a. To make recommendations to the Governor on the objectives of the agricultural program of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- b. In connection with the objectives of the general program, to discuss and recommend an order of priority for the programs or activities of each agricultural agency of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. To discuss and make recommendations on the budget, capital, and operating requirements of each agricultural agency of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in relation to the programs or activities to which priority may have been assigned by the Council.
- c. To obtain the cooperation of the agricultural agencies of the United States Government working in Puerto Rico, as a means of coordinating their programs or activities with the programs or activities of the agricultural agencies of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- d. To discuss and make recommendations on the assignment of functions to the agencies of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as a means to achieve the objectives of the general program, including the preparation of the necessary legislation. To discuss and recommend the means of carrying out functions which are deemed necessary to the success of a particular program or activity, but which cannot be carried out under statutory provisions or agency regulations.
- e. To assign the carrying out—through the directors of agricultural organizations or organizations having activities related to agriculture, operating with resources of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or through the officials designated by the said directors—of any action necessary to facilitate the execution of the programs agreed upon. To receive reports on the progress

made in each of these programs, and to try to obtain similar action by means of cooperation agreements with the agricultural agencies of the United States Government that are operating in Puerto Rico.

(2) The Council shall be composed of

(a) the following officials of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico:

the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce—President;

the Director of the Land Authority;

the Chairman of the Sugar Board;

the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station;

the Director of the Agricultural Extension Service;

the Director of the Vocational Education Program;

the Dean of the College of Agriculture and

Mechanic Arts;

the Administrator of Economic Development;

the President of the Government Development Bank; and

(b) the following officials of the Department of

Agriculture of the United States Government, who

are hereby invited to be members of the Council:

the Director, Agricultural Stabilization and

Conservation Service;

the Director, Farmers Home Administration;

the Director, Soil Conservation Service;

the Vice-president, Federal Intermediate Credit

Bank, Baltimore Bank for Cooperatives, and

Federal Land Bank.

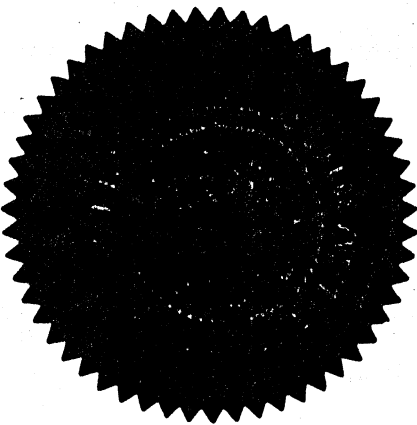
(3) The decisions it is incumbent upon the Council to make shall be approved or disapproved by the President thereof, who shall do so after hearing the points of view of the council members.

(4) The Governor may appoint such private farmers as he may wish, to constitute a consulting committee of the Council. Each farmer shall serve for a period of one year.

(5) To act as a consulting unit of the Council, a planning, programming, reporting, and result evaluating unit of the Commonwealth agricultural program shall be organized by the President of the Council. The unit shall be directed by the Executive Secretary of the Council. The appointments of the Executive Secretary and of the technical personnel of the said unit shall be made by the President, with the advice of the Council and the approval of the Governor.

(6) The Council shall have authority to require the use of such information and personnel services under the jurisdiction of Commonwealth agencies as it may need to assist in the performance of its tasks and the conduct of its researches.

(7) The Council shall meet periodically as agreed upon by rules and regulations. The President shall call a special meeting whenever he may see fit. Unless they have previously requested the President to excuse their presence, all the members of the Council, with the exception of the members representing agricultural agencies of the United States Government, from whom similar cooperation shall be requested by the President of the Council, shall attend all meetings regularly. The Executive Secretary shall submit to the Governor a copy of all the minutes of the meetings of the Council.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to be affixed, at the City of San Juan, this 4th. day of June, A.D. nineteen hundred and fifty-seven.

(Sgd.) LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN
Governor

Promulgated according to law, *this 4th. day of June, 1957.

(Sgd.) N. ALMIROTY
Assistant Secretary of State