



FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER )  
FAO No. 185-1 :  
Series of 1997 )

**SUBJECT: Amending Sections 1 and 2 of FAO No.185 by adding whales and porpoises in the ban on the taking or catching, selling, purchasing and possessing, transporting and exporting of Dolphins**

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Fisheries Administrative Order No. 185 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. Definition – As used in this Order, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a. Dolphin - a small toothed cetacean of the family Delphinidae
- b. Whale - a medium or large toothed or baleen cetacean of the families Physeteridae, Kogiidae, Ziphiidae, Delphinidae and Balaenopteridae
- c. Porpoise -a small toothed cetacean of the family Phocoenidae”

SECTION 2. Section 2 is hereby amended, as follows:

“SEC.2. Prohibition. - It shall be unlawful to take or catch dolphins, whales, and porpoises in Philippine waters or to sell, purchase, possess, transport or export the same whether dead or alive, in any state or form whether raw or processed. PROVIDED, that the Secretary of Agriculture (DA), upon the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), may issue a special permit in favor of any government or private agency engaged in purely scientific research on dolphins, whales, and porpoises, including those to be used for exhibition and show purposes subject to such terms and conditions as the said Secretary may deem wise to impose”.


“It shall likewise, be unlawful to wound or kill dolphins, whales, and porpoises in the course of fishing. Dolphins, whales, and porpoises, which are accidentally included in the catch by any

gear or washed ashore alive, shall be immediately released unharmed into the sea; otherwise the liability shall be deemed to still exist. Dead whales, dolphins or porpoises that are washed ashore shall be reported and/or surrendered to the nearest Department of Agriculture (DA) office for proper disposition and documentation”.

SECTION 3. Effectivity. This order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette and/ or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

PROMULGATED: on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 1997 in Quezon City, Metropolitan Manila, Philippines.

Approved by:

  
**SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III**  
Secretary  
Department of Agriculture

Recommended by:

  
**DENNIS B. ARAULLO**  
Director  
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources