

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 48, February 04, 2016]

CREATING THE NATIONAL ORGANIZING COUNCIL FOR THE PHILIPPINES' HOSTING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN) IN 2017, AND PRESCRIBING ITS AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS

WHEREAS, the Philippines is one of the founding members of ASEAN and a signatory to the ASEAN Charter which entered into force on 15 December 2008;

WHEREAS, ASEAN, is committed to intensifying community building through enhanced regional cooperation and integration, in particular by establishing an ASEAN Community comprising the ASEAN Security Community, the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, as provided for in the Bali Declaration of ASEAN Concord II;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter X, Article 31 of the ASEAN Charter, the Philippines will assume its chairing of ASEAN in 2017, which will coincide with the 50th founding anniversary of ASEAN;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Council for Regional Cooperation (PCRC) was created by the President under Administrative Order (AO) No. 20 (s.2011), to upgrade and reinforce inter-agency coordination in the formulation and consolidation of positions and strategies of the Philippines as it participates in ASEAN and all other regional and interregional organizations and fora;

WHEREAS, there is a need to constitute a separate National Organizing Council to manage and supervise all tasks and activities related to the Philippines' hosting of the major ASEAN meetings;

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution provides that the President shall have control over all the executive departments, bureaus, and offices and ensure that the laws be faithfully executed;

WHEREAS, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President; and

WHEREAS, under Section 89 of Republic Act No. 10717 or the "General Appropriations Act of 2016", the President is authorized to create new offices and modify the existing organizational structure of the agencies in the executive branch, as well as create new positions or modify existing ones whenever public interest so requires.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the Philippines, by virtue

of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Composition. An ASEAN-NOC is hereby constituted, composed of the following members:

Chairperson:	Executive Secretary Secretary of Foreign Affairs (for the ASEAN Political Security Community)
Vice Chairpersons:	Secretary of Trade and Industry (for the ASEAN Economic Community) Secretary of Social Welfare and Development (for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community) Secretary of Interior and Local Government Secretary of National Defense Secretary of Public Works and Highways
Members:	Secretary of Transportation and Communication Secretary of Tourism Secretary of Budget and Management Secretary of the Presidential Communications Operations Office

The Chief Executives of Local Government Units (LGUs) selected to serve as the site of the ASEAN 2017 meetings may be invited as Special Members of the ASEAN-NOC and the ASEAN 2017 Committees.

The ASEAN-NOC Chairperson and the ASEAN 2017 Committee Heads may require the participation of the heads of other departments and/or agencies, government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs), and invite LGUs, representatives from the private sector, the academe, and the civil society, as may be deemed necessary.

SECTION 2. Authority and Functions of the ASEAN-NOC. In pursuit of its objectives and subject to existing laws, the ASEAN-NOC shall have the following authority and functions:

- a. Approve and recommend to the President a Master Plan for the Philippines' hosting of the ASEAN in 2017, including an estimated budget for the hosting of the ASEAN meetings and necessary communication mechanisms to ensure efficient and effective coordination among member agencies;
- b. Issue such administrative guidelines and instructions as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of this Order;
- c. Submit periodic reports to the President throughout the duration of the ASEAN 2017 hosting; and
- d. Perform any and all acts and functions as may be deemed appropriate and necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the ASEAN-NOC, the Executive Committee, and the Committees, to advance the purposes of this AO, and to ensure the successful hosting of ASEAN in 2017.

SECTION 3. Meetings of the ASEAN-NOC. The ASEAN-NOC Chairperson, or his duly appointed representative, shall convene the meetings of the ASEAN-NOC regularly and as often as may be necessary to ensure proper coordination and implementation of the 2017 Hosting Master Plan and the individual Work Plans of its

Committees.

SECTION 4. Executive Committee. An Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the EXECOM) shall be established to ensure that the programs, projects, and activities to be undertaken in the preparation for the Philippines' hosting of ASEAN in 2017 shall run continuously, smoothly, efficiently, and effectively.

The EXECOM shall be composed of representatives, with a rank not lower than Assistant Secretary, from the following agencies: the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of National Defense (DND), the Department of Finance (DOF), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), the Department of Tourism (DOT), the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES), the Office of the Cabinet Secretary (OCS), the Presidential Management Staff (PMS), the Office of the National Security Adviser, the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO), the Office of Presidential Protocol, and others as may be deemed necessary by the ASEAN-NOC Chairperson.

SECTION 5. Authority and Functions of the EXECOM. The EXECOM shall perform and act, by majority vote of all its members, on such specific matters not otherwise within the exclusive competence of the ASEAN-NOC and as may be delegated to it, such as:

- a. Manage the implementation and execution of the Master Plan upon approval by the President and supervise and monitor all activities related thereto;
- b. Call upon any official, employee, agency or instrumentality of the national or local governments for any assistance that may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this AO and to implement the Master Plan;
- c. Recommend to the ASEAN-NOC any necessary and proper modifications or improvements to the Master Plan to ensure the successful hosting of ASEAN 2017;
- d. Issue implementing rules and instructions necessary and appropriate to effectively execute the Master Plan; and
- e. Submit periodic reports to the ASEAN-NOC Chairperson throughout the duration of the ASEAN 2017 Hosting.

SECTION 6. Office of the Senior Officials for Substantive Matters. The Office of the Senior Officials for Substantive Matters shall be chaired by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) Leader and co-chaired by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM) Leader and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Senior Officials Committee for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Committee (SOCA) Leader. It shall formulate and advance the agenda, substantive theme, priorities, strategies and activities of the Philippines as Chair of ASEAN in 2017.

The membership of the Office of the Senior Officials for Substantive Matters shall be comprised of the agencies of the ASEAN Matters Technical Board (AMTB) of the