

[**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 229, June 18, 2008**]

CREATING THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE SENATE CONCURRENCE ON THE RATIFICATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN CHARTER)

WHEREAS, the ASEAN Charter was signed by Heads of States of the ASEAN Member States on 20 November 2007 in Singapore;

WHEREAS, Chapter XIII, Article 47(2) of the ASEAN Charter provides that it shall be subject to ratification by all ASEAN Member States in accordance with their respective internal procedures;

WHEREAS, Chapter XIII, Article 47(4) further provides that the Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General of ASEAN;

WHEREAS, the ASEAN Charter has been determined to be a treaty and, therefore, requires Senate concurrence after executive ratification, pursuant to Executive Order No. 459, series of 1997, providing for the guidelines in the negotiation of international agreements and its ratification;

WHEREFORE, there is a need to create a Task Force composed of different government agencies, which will be tasked to put forward to the Senate the benefits, advantages and opportunities to the Philippines of an ASEAN Charter.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Creation of an ASEAN Charter Task Force. - An ASEAN Charter Task Force (ACTF) is hereby created to act with resolve and urgency for the concurrence in the ratification of the Treaty by the Senate;

Sec. 2. Composition. - The Task Force shall be composed of representatives from the following government agencies:

1. Department of Foreign Affairs
2. Department of Trade and Industry
3. Department of Justice
4. Department of National Defense
5. Department of Labor and Employment
6. Office of the Solicitor General
7. National Economic and Development Authority
8. National Security Council