

**[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 196, June 09,
1995]**

**CONSTITUTING A PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC
COOPERATION (APEC) CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE
AND TRAINING FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMEs)**

WHEREAS, APEC leaders, including the President, have pledged during their informal meeting at Blake Island, Seattle, United States of America, on 20 November 1993, to take initiatives and to pursue concrete economic cooperation projects that will yield tangible benefits to the APEC region;

WHEREAS, there is a need for a system for exchange of information, experience and expertise in trade and technology among APEC members to facilitate the establishment of better business ties among businesses, in particular small and medium scale enterprises, in the region;

WHEREAS, cognizant of this need, the President had, during the said APEC meeting, expressed the initiative to establish and operationalize a resource center to be known as the APEC Center for Technology Exchange and Training for SMEs (the Center) which shall, among others, collate and disseminate market information, establish linkages and networks, provide training and promote technology transfer among nationals and SMEs of APEC member economies; and

WHEREAS, groundbreaking ceremonies for the Center at the Science Park, UP Los Baños, Laguna were already held on 13 February 1995 and announced by the Philippine Government at the APEC Senior Officials meeting in Fukuoka, Japan held on 13 to 16 February 1995.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby constitute a Presidential Committee to formulate policies to guide and coordinate efforts towards the establishment and operation of the Center in accordance with the Ministerial declarations and pronouncements of APEC Economic Leaders.

The Committee shall be composed of the heads, or the duly authorized permanent representatives thereof, of the following:

Department of Trade and Industry	– Chairman
Department of Foreign Affairs	– Vice-Chairman
Department of Science and Technology	– Member
Department of Labor and Employment	– Member
Department of Agriculture	– Member