

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 140, September 02, 2013]

**CREATING A CUSTOMS POLICY RESEARCH OFFICE (CPRO) IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF)**

WHEREAS, the present Administration is committed to increase the tax effort of the revenue generating agencies of the government from the current 12.9 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 16 percent by 2016;

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No. 292, otherwise known as the "Administrative Code of 1987," provides that the President has continuing authority to reorganize the Executive Department, allocate powers, functions and responsibilities, align resources, and provide clear direction to specific government agencies and units;

WHEREAS, under EO 292, DOF is responsible for the formulation, institutionalization and administration of fiscal policies and for the generation and management of the financial resources of the government;

WHEREAS, consistent with the above mandate, the DOF Secretary must spearhead efforts towards the streamlining of procedures and processes in revenue generating bureaus attached to DOF, one of which is the Bureau of Customs (BOC);

WHEREAS, there is a need to create a policy-making body in DOF which shall specialize in the identification and evaluation of internationally-accepted customs administration practices and processes, and shall work towards maximizing the BOC's revenue collection and building its integrity while ensuring harmonization and simplification of customs procedures;

WHEREAS, under Section 74 of Republic Act (RA) No. 10352, or the General Appropriations Act of 2013, the President may authorize organizational and staffing pattern changes in any department, bureau and office in the Executive Branch; and

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution expressly grants the President control of all executive departments, bureaus, agencies and offices.

NOW THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Organization. There is hereby created in the DOF the CPRO, which shall be responsible for reviewing the customs administration policies, rules and procedures, and thereafter providing sound recommendations for the improvement of the same.

The CPRO shall be under the direct supervision and control of the DOF Secretary, who may designate a subordinate official with the rank of Undersecretary to oversee the operations of the CPRO.