

[**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 759, October 23, 2008**]

CREATING A TASK FORCE AGAINST ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT

WHEREAS, the Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (PAIRTF) created pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 325, series of 2004, and tasked, among others, to develop and execute strategies and schemes against the *modus operandi* of illegal recruiters, was automatically dissolved after a year from its effectivity;

WHEREAS, EO No. 548, series of 2006, created the Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (TFAIR) under the supervision of the Commission on Filipino Overseas (CFO), which carried the same functions as that of the dissolved PAIRTF;

WHEREAS, EO No. 548-A, series of 2007, amending EO 548, series of 2006, redefined the mandate of the CFO and redirected its efforts to anti-human trafficking activities; and likewise reiterated the anti-illegal recruitment functions of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) pursuant to the Omnibus Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995;

WHEREAS, the continued incidence of illegal recruitment has remained a serious and persistent problem that has reached alarming proportion as to cause public concern;

WHEREAS, it is of critical importance that the State safeguards public interest and protect the Filipino workers from losing their hard earned money and property to unscrupulous recruiters and syndicates, and save the Government from incurring expenses due to repatriation of victims of illegal recruitment;

WHEREAS, there is a need to create a new Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment under the supervision of Vice President Noli De Castro, being the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Workers, in order to ensure a more focused, coordinated and effective Program of Action to curb illegal recruitment;

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of 1987 provides that the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Executive Branch of the government.

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

SECTION 1. Creation of a Task Force. There is hereby created a Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (TFAIR), which shall be under the control and supervision of Vice President Noli De Castro, for policy and program coordination.