

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 180, February 27, 2003]

**DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF
THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO CERTAIN
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER
NO. 481, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 481, Series of 1991, issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 6734, effected the devolution to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) of certain powers and functions of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), including the control and supervision over its offices, programs and projects in the ARMM;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the province of Basilan (except Isabela City) and the City of Marawi to the original four provinces comprising the ARMM;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the National Government to devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and RA 6734 as amended by RA 9054, as many functions and powers of national government agencies to the ARG;

WHEREAS, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable and lasting peace in Mindanao; and

WHEREAS, the Oversight Committee created pursuant to RA 9054 deemed it imperative that there is a need to further devolve certain powers and functions of the DTI to the ARG.

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

SECTION 1. Technical Assistance. The DTI shall continue to assist the ARG in facilitating the performance of the economic development mandate. The following bureaus of the DTI may be tapped to provide support and technical assistance to the ARG:

- a. Bureau of Export Trade Promotions (BETP);
- b. Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR);
- c. Center for Industrial Competitiveness (CIC);
- d. Bureau of Import Service (BIS);
- e. Trade and Industry Information Center (TIIC);
- f. Bureau of Trade Regulations and Consumer Protection (BTRCP);
- g. Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED);