

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 208, May 17, 2003]

**CREATING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR TASK FORCE ON THE
SECOND GLOBAL FILIPINO NETWORKING CONVENTION IN
MANILA IN NOVEMBER, 2003**

WHEREAS, the Overseas Filipinos have been called the *New Heroes* of the Philippines by this administration;

WHEREAS, these overseas Filipinos are continually exposed to new trends, technologies and lifestyles that could be harnessed to contribute enduring economic, social and political structures that would help build a strong Republic;

WHEREAS, realizing the important contributions that could be expected from overseas Filipinos if properly linked and empowered, the *First Global Filipino Networking Convention* was implemented at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, California on August 31 - September 1, 2002 with over 3,000 Filipinos in attendance;

WHEREAS, the first *Global Filipino Networking Convention* saw a community of Filipinos reaching out in solidarity and oneness of spirit; and further, that future conventions of this nature could be the venue for the organization of an International Federation of Filipino Associations (IFFA);

WHEREAS, the Convention seeks to advocate the importance of networking to promote the concept of *Global Filipino* being linked with each other across boundaries through *SHARING* - Sharing knowledge, technology, experiences, and resources to help each other and to help the country;

WHEREAS, the Global Filipino referred here is one who has roots in the Philippines and who resides overseas temporarily or permanently, who is willing to participate in activities that would continually assert his position in the Global marketplace for his benefit and that of his country;

WHEREAS; encouraged by the success of the First Convention, the Convention Committee deemed it crucial to hold the 5-day 2nd *Global Filipino Networking Convention* in the Philippines at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Manila in November 2003 with a target attendance of 4,000;

WHEREAS, the homecoming of a substantial number of these overseas Filipinos is a positive gain in all areas, contributing to the economy, becoming an immediate boon to the tourism and service industries, opening trade and investment opportunities, providing a venue for crafting economic projects that would help in the alleviation of poverty in the country, as well as in promoting and re-invigorating for the overseas Filipinos and their families in the Philippines;