

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 46, October 26, 2001]

**AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE ON MUSLIM AFFAIRS TO UNDERTAKE
PHILIPPINE HALAL CERTIFICATION**

WHEREAS , it is the policy of the State to protect and promote the Filipino people's right to health and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS , it is the policy of the State to promote and respect the rights and well-being of all Filipinos, including Muslim Filipinos, recognize their contribution to national goals and aspirations, and encourage their active participation in nation building;

WHEREAS , the State recognizes the importance of promoting the growth and expansion of industries which make full use of human and natural resources and which are competitive in domestic and foreign markets;

WHEREAS , the State likewise recognizes the need to establish product export strategies that will guide the export promotion and development thrusts of the government and to implement programs and activities geared towards the promotion of Philippine exports in the overseas markets;

WHEREAS , the establishment of a Philippine Halal Certification Scheme for food and non-food products will contribute toward:

1. The establishment of a national standards and certification scheme for halal food and non-food products and a national standards and accreditation scheme for establishments;
2. The opening of new markets and the development of strong consumer awareness of, and confidence in, Philippine halal food and non-food products;
3. The development and promotion of Philippine industries through the increase in the volume and value of Philippine halal food and non-food exports; and
4. The development of Philippine products which comply with halal standards established in accordance with Shari'ah law and which are highly competitive and acceptable to the Muslim market;

WHEREAS , the establishment of a Philippine Halal Certification Scheme would contribute to the attainment of national peace and economic development through the establishment of the bond of respect and recognition among Filipino Muslims and Christians and the integration of Philippine trade and commerce into the customs and business practices of the Muslim world;

WHEREAS , the establishment of a Philippine Halal Certification Scheme is in accordance with our country's commitments to the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines-East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC),