

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 239, May 04, 2000]

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation (AICO) Scheme signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangement of Ford Motor Company Philippines, Inc. and Laguna Autoparts Mfg., Corp. (LAMCOR), both along with Thailand;

WHEREAS, under the FORD AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Ford Motor Co. Phils. Inc.) will import from Thailand certain original equipment manufacturer (OEM) automotive parts/components for FORD Laser LYNX passenger cars (HS 8703.90 10) and Ford Ranger Pick-ups (HS 8704.90 10). In exchange, Thailand will import from the Philippines complementary component parts for the OEM of FORD Laser LYNX passenger cars;

WHEREAS, under the LAMCOR AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Laguna Autoparts Mfg. Corp.) will import from Thailand certain intermediate products for the assembly of OEM alternators and starters. In exchange, Thailand will import from the Philippines complementary component parts for alternators and starters;

WHEREAS, AICO Certificate of Eligibility Nos. Ford/2000/1 and MEL/2000/3 were both issued on 03 January 2000 in favor of the participating companies in the FORD and LAMCOR AICO Arrangements;

WHEREAS, in consonance with Articles 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the AICO Scheme, participating companies in the approved FORD and LAMCOR AICO Arrangements shall qualify for 0-5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by Thailand and the Philippines as participating countries, effective within 45 days from the date of issuance of the Certificates of Eligibility by the ASEAN Secretariat.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Republic of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The articles specifically listed in Annex "A", hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 5% on component parts of Laser LYNX passenger cars (HS 8703.90 10) and the AICO rate of 3% on component parts of Ranger Pick-ups (HS 8704.90 10) as specified in Column 6 thereof.