

[**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 293, August 26, 2000**]

FOR THE HOLDING OF THE FIRST NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN

WHEREAS, in preparation for its participation in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Summit delineating the Goals for Children to be held on September 2001, there is a need for the Philippines to immediately hold a National Summit on Children, which shall take the form of a one-day consultative conference to be participated in by children and adult representatives from multi-sectoral governmental and non-governmental organizations from various regions of the country;

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned National Summit will give the President of the Republic of the Philippines a suitable opportunity to launch the Philippine National Development Plan for Children (otherwise known as "Child 21") and to deliver his State of the Filipino Child address;

WHEREAS, it is indeed appropriate for the above-mentioned National Summit to be held in October 2000, as the month of October is widely regarded as the month for children;

WHEREAS, this Administration is committed to the protection, survival, and development of Filipino children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. *First National Summit on Children* – There shall be held a National Summit on Children on 26 October 2000 at the Heroes Hall, Malacanang Palace, Manila.

Section 2. *National Steering Committee* – The Office shall be the primary policy making and coordinating body of all child development programs and institutions in the Philippines.

Section 3. *Powers and Responsibilities* – (a) The Office of the Presidential Adviser for Children's Affairs shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- i. To advise the President on issues affecting children and to recommend such measures or programs that will complement the Estrada Administration's pro-poor agenda;
- ii. To review all legislation for children and to see if there is a need to introduce or amend legislation for the protection and welfare of children;