

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 414, May 22, 1997]

**AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO
OVERSEE THE PROGRESSION OF THE PLAN FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF DESIGN AND
TECHNOLOGY (AIDT)**

WHEREAS, the Philippines seeks to attain its vision of a newly industrializing country by the year 2000 through the twin strategies of global competitiveness and people empowerment;

WHEREAS, in pursuing this vision, the Philippine government should develop and strengthen its industries to be internationally competitive;

WHEREAS, the fashion industry is now faced with stiff competition in the global markets and will have to improve its global competitive position by upgrading its technologies and manpower skills;

WHEREAS, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is empowered to develop the capabilities of industry to upgrade the quality of products according to competitive international standards;

WHEREAS, in response to new world developments, the DTI sees the need to establish a fashion design and technology institute that will develop the Philippine's fashion industry's human and technical resources in the fields of design, pattern making, manufacturing technology, merchandising and export marketing;

WHEREAS, the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), a state university of New York, and an internationally recognized institute in the field of art and design, business and technology, has assisted developing countries such as India and Brazil in establishing and later strengthening their respective institutes of design and technology;

WHEREAS, the FIT has extended its assistance to the DTI by allowing its faculty and experts to undertake the initial studies that will lead to the establishment of an Asian Institute of Design and Technology in Manila and to conduct training programs designed to upgrade the professional skills of the fashion industry workforce at subsidized rates;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to progress the plan to establish the AIDT into its implementation stage and to continue the conduct of the training programs which will help build up systems and programs that upgrade the technical skills of the fashion industry's manpower within the next three years;

WHEREAS, the Technical Education and Skills Authority (TESDA) was vested with the primary responsibility of formulating continuing coordinated and fully integrated technical education and skills development policies and was also empowered to