

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 200, June 18, 1987]

**PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF LAWS EITHER IN THE
OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
CIRCULATION IN THE PHILIPPINES AS A REQUIREMENT FOR
THEIR EFFECTIVITY.**

WHEREAS, Article 2 of the Civil Code partly provides that "laws shall take effect after fifteen days following the completion of their publication in the *Official Gazette*, unless it is otherwise provided x x x;"

WHEREAS, the requirement that for laws to be effective only a publication thereof in the *Official Gazette* will suffice has entailed some problems, a point recognized by the Supreme Court in *Tañada, et. al. vs. Tuvera, et. al.* (G.R. No. 63915, December 29, 1986) when it observed that "[t]here is much to be said of the view that the publication need not be made in the *Official Gazette*, considering its erratic release and limited readership";

WHEREAS, it was likewise observed that "[u]ndoubtedly, newspapers of general circulation could better perform the function of communicating the laws to the people as such periodicals are more easily available, have a wider readership, and come out regularly"; and

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing premises Article 2 of the Civil Code should accordingly be amended so that laws to be effective must be published either in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Laws shall take effect after fifteen days following the completion of their publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines, unless it is otherwise provided.

SEC. 2. Article 2 of Republic Act No. 386, otherwise known as the "Civil Code of the Philippines," and all other laws inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately after its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 18th day of June, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and eighty-seven.

CORAZON C. AQUINO
President of the Philippines