

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 384, March 11, 1972 ]**

**PROMULGATING POLICY GUIDELINES AND TRADE WITH  
SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES**

WHEREAS, it is in the national interest to develop as early as possible trade and other relations with all countries, including socialist and communist countries, a policy which has received the support of all significant sectors in the country;

WHEREAS, policy guidelines must be adopted for the orderly conduct of such trade relations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby promulgate the following policy guidelines:

**A. Commodity Pattern**

1. All present and potential export products of the Philippines shall be allowed.
2. In case of importation, priority shall be given to the following commodities:
  - a. Heavy machinery and equipment, including spare parts, particularly those that will carry them some technology transfer. Preference shall be given to those not produced locally.
  - b. Raw materials, including fuel, which are not produced locally.
  - c. Essential consumer products which are not produced locally.

**B. Channels of Trade**

1. Export trade will be handled through normal private commercial channels and government trading firms, such as NETRACOR. Initially, however, import trade shall be conducted solely through NETRACOR in pursuance of the government's economic development program. To avoid possible ruinous competition among Philippine traders, all commercial transactions shall be coursed through the Department of Commerce and Industry.
2. Should the establishment in the Philippines of resident trading representatives from socialist and communist countries become necessary, the matter shall be referred to the Department of Commerce and Industry which shall coordinate with the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Bureau of Immigration, and/or other government agencies concerned.
3. Travel requirements to socialist and communist countries for trading purposes