[BOC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 104-2000, February 29, 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

Attached is the letter dated February 23, 2000 of Director Aurora T. Aquino, Office of the President endorsing a certified copy of Executive Order No. 214 dated February 16, 2000 entitled: "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."

For your information and guidance.

Adopted: 29 Feb. 2000

(SGD.) RENATO A. AMPIL *Acting Commissioner*

Attachment:

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 214

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 AICO Scheme seeks to improve the competitive position of ASEAN Companies in the global and ASEAN markets by providing the means to apply the principles of economies of scale and scope in the manufacturing process, supported by preferential import duties to enhance across ASEAN border transactions;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Scheme of Goya, Inc., along with Indonesia and Thailand;

WHEREAS, under the Goya AICO Agreement, it was agreed that the Philippines (Goya, Inc.) will import sweetened cocoa blend from Indonesia (PT. Nestle Confectionery Indonesia) and sweetened skimmed milk powder and sweetened whey compound from Thailand (Nestle Foods (Thailand) Ltd.) as intermediate products for the manufacture of chocolate confectionery and chocolate eclairs. In