

[PROCLAMATION NO. 624, April 30, 2004]

ENJOINING THE NATION TO CELEBRATE THIS YEAR THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY AND EVERY TEN YEARS THEREAFTER

WHEREAS, the United Nations, through Resolution No. 56/113 of 19 December 2001 enjoins all member countries to prepare for and observe the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004;

WHEREAS, Section 12, Article II of the Constitution of the Philippines provides that the State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution;

WHEREAS, a National Committee on the Filipino Family (NCFF) was created through Executive Order No. 241, series of 1995, amended by Executive Order No. 238, series of 2003, expanding the powers and functions and membership of the Committee which include, among others, "the proper observance of the forthcoming anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004".

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby enjoin the nation to observe this year, and every ten years thereafter, as the International Year of the Family. I hereby direct the NCFF to initiate and coordinate the proper observance of the International Year of the Family and to prepare the Decade Plan for the Filipino Family for 2005-2015 culminating in the observance of the 25th year of the International Year of the Family, and the succeeding Decade Plan for the Filipino Family.

I hereby further direct the Heads of all Departments, Agencies, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations and other government instrumentalities, and the non-government organizations, including all churches, religious communities, civic organizations, and the business community to support the Committee in ensuring active participation of everyone in this event and work together in mainstreaming family programs and services in their own agencies/organizations to better serve the Filipino family.

All national and local publications, television networks and radio stations are enjoined to help generate awareness and public support for activities in promoting the observance of the event.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 30th day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two