

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 818, July 10, 2009]

EXTENDING THE EFFECTIVITY OF THE ZERO RATE OF IMPORT DUTY ON MILLING WHEAT UNDER SECTION 104 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER SECTION 3 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 765, SERIES OF 2008

WHEREAS, Executive Order 765, issued on 7 November 2008, reduced the duty on milling wheat and feed wheat from 3% and 7%, respectively, to zero, for six months, subject to further review;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3 of E.O. 765, series of 2008, a review was undertaken by the Tariff and Related Matters (TRM) Committee to determine if there is a need to extend the imposition of the MFN rate of duty of zero on milling wheat and feed wheat;

WHEREAS, extending the zero duty on milling wheat would help stabilize, if not bring down further, the prices of bread and other flour-based products;

WHEREAS, the NEDA Board approved on 07 July 2009 the TRM recommendation to extend the imposition of the MFN rate of duty of zero on milling wheat for six (6) months, subject to further review;

WHEREAS, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty and the tariff nomenclature, under Section 104 of the Code;

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 order:

SECTION 1. The articles specifically listed in Annex "A" hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the Most-Favored-Nation (MFN) rate of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

SECTION 2. The nomenclature and the rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol "x x x" shall remain in force and in effect.

SECTION 3. Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex "A" except feed wheat (AHTN Heading No. 1001.90.99) which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the MFN rate of duty of zero ad valorem for six (6) months, subject to further review.