

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 270-A, April 20, 2004 ]**

**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 270**

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 270 entitled "NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA ON REVITALIZING MINING IN THE PHILIPPINES" was issued on January 16, 2004;

WHEREAS, there is need to expressly stipulate the concerns referring to the protection of rights of indigenous peoples and communities;

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.* Section 2 (a), (f) and (g) of Executive Order No. 270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"a) Government recognizes the critical role of investments in the minerals industry for national development and poverty alleviation and shall provide support mechanism for sustained mineral exploration program, *including the streamlining of procedures of concerned government agencies and instrumentalities relating to the grant of mining tenements, responsive research to the grant of mining tenements,* responsive research and development priorities and capability building for industry manpower".

"f) Protection of the environment shall be of paramount consideration in every stage of mining operation; mitigation and progressive rehabilitation measures shall be integral components of mining operations. *Decommissioning and/or final mine rehabilitation shall be supported by the most appropriate environmental financial surety*".

"g) The ecological integrity of areas affected by mining operation, including biodiversity resources and small-island ecosystems, shall be safeguarded in order to protect public welfare, safety and environmental quality. *The rights of affected communities, including the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities, especially the Free and Prior Informed Consent requirement, shall be protected.*"

*SEC. 2. Repealing Clause.* All executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions