

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 459, September 01, 2005]

**STREAMLINING THE PROCEDURE IN THE DISPOSITION OF
REQUESTS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR
AUTHORITY TO TRAVEL ABROAD**

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No. 6 dated March 12, 1986, as amended by Memorandum Order No. 26 dated July 31, 1986, provided for procedures in the disposition of requests of government officials and employees for authority to travel abroad;

WHEREAS, Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 18 dated October 27, 1992 clarified existing rules and regulations on travel abroad of government officials and employees;

WHEREAS, there is a need to streamline procedures in the disposition of requests of government officials and employees for authority to travel abroad in order to promote administrative efficiency and to enable the Office of the President to attend to governance matters;

WHEREAS, EO 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, recognizes, in Section 31 (2), Chapter 10, Title III, Book III, the President's continuing authority to reorganize her office by transferring any function under the Office of the President to any other Department or Agency as well as transfer functions to the Office of the President from other Departments and Agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The following officials shall seek approval from the Office of the President for authority to travel abroad.

- a) Members of the Cabinet and officials of equivalent rank;
- b) Heads of government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) and government financing institutions (GFIs) under or attached to the Office of the President; and
- c) Heads of agencies under or attached to the Office of the President.

SECTION 2. Subject to Section 5 hereof, all other government officials and employees seeking authority to travel abroad shall henceforth seek approval from their respective heads of agencies, regardless of the length of their travel and the number of delegates concerned. For the purpose of this paragraph, heads of agencies refer to the Department Secretaries or their equivalents.