

**[BI MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. ADD-02-022, MAY
16, 2002, May 16, 2002]**

CERTIFICATE OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP

Republic Act No. 8239 (The Philippine Passport Act of 1996), Sections 3(d), (4) and (5) provide the following:

Sec. 3. Definitions. — As used in this Act:

xxx xxx xxx

(d) Passport is a document issued by the Philippine government to its citizens and requesting other governments to allow the citizen to pass safely and freely, and in case of need to give him/her all lawful aid and protection; (*Italics mine*)

Sec. 4. Authority to Issue, Deny, Restrict or Cancel — Upon the application of any qualified Filipino citizen, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs or any of his authorized consular officer may issue passports in accordance with this Act. (*Italics mine*)

Sec. 5. Requirements for the Issuance of Passport — No passport shall be issued to an applicant unless the Secretary (of Foreign Affairs) or his duly authorized representative is satisfied that the applicant is a Filipino citizen x x x (*Italics mine*)

Based on these provisions, the issuance of a Philippine passport by the Honorable Secretary of Foreign Affairs affirms the claim to Philippine citizenship of its bearer, despite the latter's possession of a foreign passport.

Therefore, for immigration purposes, a minor child of a Philippine citizen bearing a foreign passport may be issued, upon proof of payment of immigration fees, a Certificate of Philippine Citizenship by the Commissioner of Immigration under Commonwealth Act No. 613, Section 3, as amended.

This memorandum order shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: 16 May 2002

(SGD.) ANDREA D. DOMINGO
Commissioner