[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 201, January 18, 2000]

PROVIDING ADDITIONAL POLICIES AND GUIDELINES IN THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SUPPLIES BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, the increasing prevalence of information technology in commercial transactions requires corresponding changes in existing procurement procedures;

WHEREAS, recent developments in information technology provide alternative means of procurement using the convenience and cost-effectiveness of electronic and telecommunications technology;

WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Modernization Act of 1995 mandates the Department of National Defense (DND)-AFP to strengthen its systems and procedures for equipment acquisition, taking into account new requirements under the AFP Modernization Program;

WHEREAS, international defense procurement procedures involving sophisticated defense equipment and weapons systems allow the submission of bids without a bid bond but with other forms of security, such as the sovereign guarantee by the bidder's government;

WHEREAS, there is a need to allow DND-AFP to adopt procurement procedures that will enable it to procure the best equipment and weapons systems that its modernization funds can afford from the market;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Executive Order No. 302, series of 1996, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. A set of rules and regulations covering contracts for the procurement of goods and supplies for both project-related and normal/regular operation and maintenance activities of the National Government be adopted for the following purposes:

- a. to purchase goods of acceptable quality at fair and reasonable prices from qualified and capable suppliers/manufacturers/distributors, with on time delivery and satisfactory compliance of all contract terms and conditions;
- b. to assure fair and equitable treatment of suppliers/manufacturers/distributors, including arrangements for prompt payments;