

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 218, March 15, 2000]

**REACTIVATING THE TASK FORCE ON FEES AND CHARGES,
EXPANDING ITS MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS AND
PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR THE REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED
RATE INCREASE OF FEES AND CHARGES BY NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR
CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS UNDER EO 197, SERIES OF 2000**

WHEREAS, there is need to improve revenue collection to achieve revenue targets and fund the government's socio-economic programs;

WHEREAS, fees and charges remain a significant sources of revenue for the government;

WHEREAS, government fees and charges are user charges which are commensurate with the benefits received from services rendered, and persons receiving such services must share the burden of expenses incurred by the government instead of the full cost being borne by all taxpayers;

WHEREAS, since the cost of rendering government services or regulating certain activities has risen drastically and the government does not have sufficient resources to sustain, improve or expand these services, it is necessary that the rates of fees and charges be upgraded commensurately with the increase in the cost of their administration;

WHEREAS, for social consideration, health, education and other social services are generally free or subsidized by the government;

WHEREAS, despite the issuance of Executive Order (EO) No. 159, series of 1994, directing all departments, bureaus, commissions, agencies and instrumentalities of the national government including government-owned or controlled corporations to adjust their fees and charges by just and reasonable rates sufficient to cover at least the full cost of services rendered, only very few agencies have complied;

WHEREAS, EO No. 197 series of 2000 has been issued to reiterate the importance of revising the rates of fees and charges and to direct all departments, bureaus, commissions, agencies, offices and instrumentalities of the National Government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, to increase their rates of fees and charges by not less than 20 percent;

WHEREAS, to prevent indiscriminate and inappropriate increases in the rates of fees and charges, it is important that the Task Force on Fees and Charges be reactivated to review where necessary proposals from the agencies concerned before approval of their Department Secretaries.