

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

MFN 4

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 65

CONSTITUTING THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE AND COORDINATE THE PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE WORKING GROUP ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Indonesian Government, the convenor of the annual informal Workshops on "Managing Potential Conflicts in the South China Sea", has invited the Philippines to host one or both of the two Working Groups established by the third Workshop held in Yogyakarta in 1992;

WHEREAS, these annual Workshops, although unofficial in nature, constitute an important confidence-building mechanism and a valuable dialogue forum for maintaining the peace and avoiding conflict over an area that is commonly regarded as a potential "flashpoint";

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government has accepted the Indonesian invitation and decided to host and organize the Working Group on Marine Scientific Research in March 1993;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government considers the responsibility of hosting the Working Group on Marine Scientific Research in the South China Sea to be an important and valuable one because the Working Group will form an active part of a peace process aimed at promoting cooperation and avoiding conflict in the South China Sea, and will provide opportunities for joint efforts in marine scientific research which could yield valuable results for the populations and ecologies of the region;

WHEREAS, there is a need to constitute a Steering Committee to undertake and coordinate the preparatory work for the meetings and other activities of the Working Group;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The Steering Committee which will undertake and coordinate the preparatory work for the Working Group on Marine Scientific Research in

Steering Committee for the  
Working Group on Marine  
Scientific Research in South  
China Sea

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the South China Sea is hereby constituted and shall be  
composed of representatives from the following:

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|--|---|---------------|
| Department of Foreign Affairs                              | - | Chairman      |
| Department of Science and Technology                       | - | Vice-Chairman |
| Department of Environment and Natural<br>Resources         | - | Member        |
| Department of National Defense                             | - | Member        |
| Marine Science Institute, University<br>of the Philippines | - | Member        |
| Office of the National Security<br>Adviser                 | - | Member        |
| Institute of Strategic and Develop-<br>ment Studies        | - | Member        |

The Steering Committee shall be under the direction  
of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

SEC. 2. The Steering Committee shall have the follow-  
ing duties and responsibilities:

To plan and coordinate the preparatory work  
for the Working Group on Marine Scientific  
Research in the South China Sea;

- b To provide secretarial and other staff support  
for the meetings and other activities of the  
Working Group;

To call upon any department, bureau, office,  
agency, or instrumentality of the Philippine  
Government for such assistance as it may re-  
quire in the performance of its duties and  
functions; and

To submit reports to the President, through  
the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, on its  
activities, including the disposition of  
funds received from local and other sources  
in support of its activities and work of  
the Working Group.

Steering Committee for the  
Working Group on Marine  
Scientific Research in South  
China Sea

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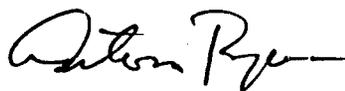
SEC. 3. The Steering Committee shall be assisted by a Secretariat to be headed by the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Department of Foreign Affairs may designate members of the Secretariat from among the member-agencies of the Steering Committee.

SEC. 4. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 1st day of March, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety three.



By the President:



ANTONIO T. CARPIO  
Chief Presidential Legal Counsel

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