MALACAÑANG Manila

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 200

AMENDING MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 165 TO INCLUDE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE TASKED WITH THE PREPARATION OF STATE OR OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Memorandum No. 165 was issued on March 22, 2005 to create an inter-agency committee, headed by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, to coordinate the planning and implementation of all arrangements during State and Official Visits to the Philippines;

WHEREAS, there is a need to include the Chairman of the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts in the inter-agency committee to better present Philippine culture during the State or Official Visits to the Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, I EDUARDO R. ERMITA, Executive Secretary, by authority of Her Excellency GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, do hereby order that the first two paragraphs of the dispositive portion of Memorandum No. 165 be amended as follows:

"NOW, THEREFORE, I EDUARDO R. ERMITA, Executive Secretary, by authority of Her Excellency GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, do hereby create an inter-agency committee to be headed by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs as Chairman, and the Chairman of the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts (NCCA) as Vice-Chairman, to take charge of the preparations and arrangements in connection with all incoming State and Official Visits to the Philippines by Head of States and other foreign dignitaries.

The Chairman, Metro Manila Development Authority, Undersecretary, Department of Public Works and Highways Undersecretary, Department of National Defense, Undersecretary, Department of Trade and Industry, Undersecretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Undersecretary, Department of Tourism, Undersecretary, Department of Transportation and Communications, Undersecretary, Department of Budget and Management, Undersecretary, Department of the Office of the Press Secretary, Chief of Protocol of the Office of the President, Social Secretary of the Office of the President, General Manager, Manila International Airport Authority, and the Group Commander. Presidential Security Group are hereby directed to fully collaborate with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the Chairman of the NCCA to ensure proper planning, coordination and execution of all preparation and arrangements, including implementation of Presidential instructions, in connection with the State or Official Visits. They will also be responsible for the preparation of the detailed programs of the State or Official Visits, including the provisions for security and media coverage."

All other provisions of the said Memorandum Order shall remain in force.

This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 7th day of December in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

By authority of the President:

EDUARDO R. ERMITA Executive Secretary