

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 11, April 06, 2018]

CREATION OF AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE ENTRY OF A NEW MAJOR PLAYER IN THE PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WHEREAS, it is the objective of this Administration to ensure reliable, inexpensive and secure telecommunications services in the country;

WHEREAS, telecommunications is an essential infrastructure to a country's economic development and competitiveness;

WHEREAS, based on the Global Information Technology Report 2016 of the World Economic Forum, the Philippines has one of the most expensive telecommunications services in South East Asia, with an affordability level for entry-level broadband services higher than the threshold set by the United Nations Broadband Commission:

WHEREAS, the International Telecommunications Union, the specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communications technologies (ICT), ranks the Philippines as one of the lowest among the members of the Association of South East Asian Nations in its ICT Development Index 2017;

WHEREAS, the entry of a new major player in the telecommunications market is a matter of paramount national interest which shall redound to the benefit of the public by ensuring genuine competition in the country's telecommunications industry;

WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that the entry of a new major player in the telecommunications market shall be undertaken in an integrated and transparent manner;

WHEREAS, Section 5 of Republic Act (RA) No. 7925 or the "Public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines" mandates the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), as the principal administrator of said law, to do the following:

- a. Adopt an, among others, administrative process which would facilitate the entry of qualified service providers and adopt a pricing policy which would generate sufficient returns to encourage them to provide basic telecommunications services in unserved and underserved areas;
- b. Promote consumers welfare by facilitating access to telecommunications services whose infrastructure and network must be geared towards the needs of individual and business users; and
- c. Protect consumers against misuse of a telecommunications entity's monopoly or quasi-monopolistic powers by, but not limited to, the