

**[ ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 238, August 28, 2008 ]**

**DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS THE LEAD TO ORGANIZE AND CARRY OUT THE SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES RELATIVE TO THE SPECIAL NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) MINISTERIAL MEETING ON INTERFAITH DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, interfaith initiatives have always been the cornerstone of Philippine policy and as such, the Philippine government created and maintained the enabling environment which will ultimately lead towards peace and development;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines has always maintained its lead on interfaith initiatives in the international community as evidenced by, among others, the successful chairing of the First Informal Meeting of World Leaders on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace in the United Nations (UN) on 13 September 2005; the hosting of the Second Dialogue on Regional Interfaith Cooperation for Peace, Development and Human Dignity on 14-16 March 2006 in Cebu; the launching and chairmanship of the Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace; and the continuous advocacy of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the Promotion of Inter-religious and Intercultural Dialogue, Understanding and Cooperation for Peace since 2004;

**WHEREAS**, the 118 Heads of States or Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) accepted the Philippine offer to host the Special NAM Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development during the 14th NAM Summit in Havana, Cuba in September 2006;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to constitute a national committee to organize and carry out efficiently and effectively all the scheduled activities relative to the hosting of the Special NAM Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order that:

**SECTION 1.** Lead - The Secretary of Foreign Affairs, with an Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs designated for the purpose as alternate shall be the lead to organize the hosting of the Special NAM Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development.

**SECTION 2.** Agency Support - The Secretary of Foreign Affairs or his designated Undersecretary as alternate shall coordinate with and seek technical, financial and administrative support from the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Education (DepEd),