

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 9, May 11, 2001]

**DIRECTING THE ORGANIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS TO CELEBRATE THE PHILIPPINE
INDEPENDENCE DAY ON JUNE 12, 2001 AND CREATING A
NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE CELEBRATION**

WHEREAS, there is a need for the Filipino people to commemorate the heroism and self-sacrifice of our forefathers in the struggle for independence;

WHEREAS, the 103rd anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence is the ideal occasion for all Filipinos to unite and rally behind the government and the country's institutions;

WHEREAS, there is a need to properly plan, implement and coordinate all programs and activities leading to the said celebration.

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

SECTION 1. The Government shall take the lead in the celebration of Philippine Independence Day with an appropriate, relevant theme to be determined by the National Committee or its Executive Committee which shall be created purposely for the event.

SEC. 2. All departments, bureaus, offices, national government agencies and government-owned and controlled corporations are hereby enjoined to participate in the celebration of Philippine Independence Day in a fitting manner consistent with their respective public service functions and in coordination with the plans of the National Committee or its Executive Committee.

Activities that promote a strong national identity and deepen the spirit of patriotism among Filipinos should be undertaken. There will be cultural festivals, theatrical presentations, symposia, historical tours and/or similar other activities in all regions.

All branches of government are enjoined to participate in the Independence Day celebration as well as to enlist the participation of private sector groups and non-government organizations so that the 103rd Philippine Independence Day celebration will be a true show of unity and strength during these challenging times.

Towards this end, local government units together with the private sector groups and NGOs are enjoined to celebrate Philippine Independence Day in their respective localities.

SEC. 3. A National Committee is hereby created to undertake and/or conduct, in coordination with the local government units and/or agencies involved, the programs and events for the Philippine Independence Day celebration which shall

include, to the extent appropriate as determined by the National Committee, the following:

a. Pambansang Araw ng Watawat (Philippine National Flag Day) on May 28 as the kick-off ceremony for the two-weekend Pagdiriwang ng Malayang Filipino (Philippine Independence Day Festival) on June 2-4 and June 9-12, instant. A special Program on "Paggalang sa Watawat" and "Pagpapahalaga sa Pambansang Awit" will be held on June 11.

b. Raising of the national flag and wreath-laying at the Rizal monument in the Rizal Park on June 12, 2001 at about 7.00 in the morning.

This activity will be particularly replicated in places of national historical significance such as the Barasoain Church in Malolos, Bulacan; Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit, Cavite; the Bonifacio Monument in Kalookan City; and the Pinaglabanan Shrine in San Juan, Metro Manila.

All other cities and municipalities around the country are enjoined to simultaneously hold similar activities on the same day and time.

c. The Philippine Independence Day Parade at the Quirino Grandstand in the afternoon/evening of June 12 which shall be meaningful and relevant to the theme of the celebration. It will be capped by a special cultural program at the same venue.

SEC. 4. The National Committee shall be composed of the following:

Secretary of Tourism	–	Chairperson
Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports	–	Co-Chairperson
Chairman, National Commission for Culture and the Arts	–	Vice-Chairperson
Secretary of the Interior and Local Government	–	Vice-Chairperson
Chairman & Executive Director, National Historical Institute	–	Vice-Chairperson

MEMBERS:

Secretary of National Defense
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Secretary of Finance
Secretary of Public Works and Highways
Secretary of Trade and Industry
Secretary of Budget and Management
Secretary of Transportation and Communication
Secretary of Health
Secretary of Science and Technology
Secretary of Social Welfare and Development
Secretary, Presidential Management Staff
Press Secretary
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)