

**[ ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 373, January 06, 1998 ]**

**CREATING A PHILIPPINE HOST COMMITTEE FOR THE 1998  
ASEAN TOURISM FORUM, PACIFIC AREA TOURISM  
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE AND WORLD CONGRESS, AND THE  
INTERNATIONAL HOTEL AND RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION  
CONGRESS**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Government, in line with its current thrust of Pole vaulting to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century aims to establish the country as "Asia's Next Shopping and Tourism Capital";

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines, as member of the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF), the Pacific Area Tourism Association (PATA) and the International Hotel and Restaurant Association (IHRA), has committed to host the annual gathering of these organizations in 1998 to highlight the global competitiveness of our country in the area of tourism and provide worldwide publicity for the Centennial Celebration of the Philippine Independence in 1998;

**WHEREAS**, the hosting by the Philippines of these prestigious international events will contribute positively to the country's projection as a competitive tourist destination for leisure/holidays, shopping, business, meetings/conventions, heritage tours, ecotourism/adventure, special interest tours, and exhibitions and will ultimately redound to more substantial economic benefits; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is need to constitute an Inter-Agency Committee that will ensure the successful conduct of these events on 08-15 January 1998 (ATF), 25-28 March 1998 (PATA Conference); 28 March 1998 to 02 April 1998 (PATA Chapters World Congress) and 22-26 October 1998 (IHRA Congress).

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

**SECTION 1. Creation of the Philippine Host Committee for the 1998 ATF, PATA Conference and World Congress and the IHRA Congress.** There is hereby created a Philippine Host Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, to plan, prepare for, oversee and supervise the conduct of the 1998 ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) in January 1998; the Pacific Area Tourism Association Conference and Chapters World Congress (PATA) in March 1998, and the Annual International Hotel and Restaurant Association Congress in October 1998.

**SEC. 2. Composition of the Committee.** The Committee shall be composed of the Secretary of Tourism, as Chairperson, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, as Co-Chairperson and Private Sector Tourism Industry Representative (to be designated by the DOT Secretary) as Vice-Chairperson, and the senior representatives of the following agencies, as members: