

[ **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 321, March 19, 1997** ]

**CREATING A NATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE HOLDING OF THE 55TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION AND THE WORLD TOURISM LEADERS' MEETING, PRESCRIBING ITS AUTHORITIES AND FUNCTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the development of the tourism sector is among the socio-economic thrusts of the government to sustain the growth of the economy and promote the country's socio-cultural heritage;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is an active and founding member of the World Tourism Organization, established to promote cooperation among member governments and the private sector in pursuing tourism development objectives;

**WHEREAS**, the World Tourism Organization (WTO), will hold the 55th Session of its Executive Council in Manila, Philippines, from 20 to 21 May 1997 to review its work program, plan its future activities and elect the new Secretary General;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Department of Tourism and the World Tourism Organization will hold the World Tourism Leaders' Meeting on 22 May 1997 in Manila, Philippines, to formulate policies and strategies to mitigate the adverse socio-cultural impacts of tourism, as well as to determine the role of tourism in the 21st century;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines' hosting of the 55th Session of the Executive Council of the WTO and that of the World Tourism Leaders will not only generate goodwill for the country, but will likewise provide an opportunity to enlist bilateral and multilateral cooperation for the further development of the country's tourism sector;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to constitute a coordinating body for the preparation of the conduct of the above Meetings in Manila and ensure its success to enable the country to maximize the gains therefrom, as well as promote the developmental objectives set by the said Meetings;

**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 a National Organizing Committee.** - There is hereby constituted a National Organizing Committee, hereinafter referred to as the National Committee, for the conduct of the 55th Session of the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization and that of the World Tourism Leaders Meeting in Manila from 20 to 22 May 1997.

**SEC. 2. Composition.** - The National Committee shall be composed of the following: