

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 72, December 18, 2018]

**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 271 (S. 1995) GOVERNING
THE ADMISSION AND STAY OF FOREIGN NATIONALS IN THE
SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE AS TEMPORARY VISITORS**

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No. 271 (s. 1995) provides for guidelines for the uncomplicated access of foreign nationals to specified areas in the Subic Special Economic and Freeport Zone (Zone), consistent with relevant issuances, in line with the declared policy of attracting and promoting foreign trade, investment and tourism in the country;

WHEREAS, EO No. 271 allows foreign nationals, not categorized as "restricted" as determined by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), visiting the Zone for business and/or tourism purposes to enter all ports of entry of the Zone and stay therein without visa for a maximum period of fourteen (14) days subject to certain conditions and provided that they shall leave or depart from the Philippines only through the Subic Bay International Airport (SBIA);

WHEREAS, the Subic Bay Piers and Wharves have emerged as new destinations for international cruise ships, as shown by the number of cruise ship arrivals in 2018, with each international cruise ship carrying an average of 1,600 passengers and 1,000 crew members;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that there will be a continued increase in cruise ship arrivals in the Subic Bay in 2019 and onwards; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend EO No. 271 to allow foreign nationals granted the visa-free privilege under the said EO to depart from the Subic Bay Piers and Wharves, besides the SBIA;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of EO No. 271 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. Foreign nationals, not categorized as "restricted" as determined by the DFA, visiting the Zone for business and/or tourism purposes may be allowed to enter all ports of entry of the Zone and stay therein without visa for a maximum period of fourteen (14) days; provided that upon arrival, they present their passports, Certificates of Identity or travel documents valid for at least six (6) months beyond the intended stay in the Zone and confirmed onward flight *or marine vessel tickets*. The determination of the identity and admissibility of the foreign national seeking to enter the Zone