

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 714, March 12, 2008]

**ENHANCING THE GOVERNMENT'S INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM
FOR INTERFAITH ACTIVITIES, RENAMING THE NATIONAL
COMMITTEE ON INTERFAITH COOPERATION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Philippine Constitution articulates a policy of peace, cooperation and amity with all nations as well as maintain peace and order in the country for everyone to fully enjoy the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, interfaith initiatives have been proven crucial to the promotion of peace, cooperation and amity within and outside the country, as well as the development of moral, spiritual and intellectual capacities for the upholding and enhancement of human dignity;

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No. 626 S. 2007, created the National Committee on Interfaith Cooperation (NCIC) to consolidate, rationalize, and ensure the consistency of the country's policies and position in various interfaith initiatives and forums in and outside the country;

WHEREAS, improvements in the present institutional arrangements are deemed necessary to improve the governmental mechanism on interfaith activities as a tool for promoting peace and upholding human dignity;

WHEREAS, Section 31, Chapter 10, Book III of EO 292 otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, vests the President with the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

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

SECTION 1. Renaming the NCIC. The NCIC is hereby renamed as the Council on Interfaith Initiatives (CII) which shall be the highest policy-setting body for the country's interfaith initiatives and involvement both here and abroad,

SECTION 2. Restructuring the CII. The CII shall have the Chairman of the Presidential Council on Values Formation (PCVF) as Chairman, with the Secretary of Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process as members.

SECTION 3. Presidential Committee on Interfaith Initiatives. To implement the policies set forth by the CII, there is hereby created under the CII a Presidential Committee on Interfaith Initiatives (PCII) that shall be composed of representatives, with ranks not lower than Assistant Secretary, from the PCVF, the DFA and the Office