

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 253, December 03, 2003]

PROVIDING FOR THE EXPANSION OF AIR SERVICES TO THE DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DMIA) AND SUBIC BAY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SBIA)

WHEREAS, the liberalization of civil aviation should be accelerated in the Philippines and thereby improve its position vis-à-vis the demands of global competition;

WHEREAS, under Executive Order No. 62 (series of 1993) prescribing the policies and guidelines to implement Republic Act No. 7227 (otherwise known as the Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992), the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) was mandated to prepare and implement a comprehensive and detailed development program for (a) the former Clark Air Base as a major civil aviation complex for international passenger and/or cargo and (b) the former Subic Naval Base as a special economic and free-port zone ensuring the free flow of goods and capital in accordance with prescribed rules;

WHEREAS, by authority of Executive Order No. 80 (series of 1993) establishing the Clark Development Corporation, the Board of Directors of the BCDA has promulgated a policy of expanding air services to the DMIA through its development as a major cargo hub for the Asia-Pacific region;

WHEREAS, such development requires the grant or enhancement of certain air traffic rights to and from the DMIA and SBIA;

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. The government shall accelerate the development of the DMIA and SBIA as a major cargo hub for the Asia-Pacific region.

SECTION 2. Any provision of Executive Order No. 219 (series of 1995), Executive Order No. 32 (series of 2001) and related issuance to the contrary notwithstanding, the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) shall process all applications for international air cargo transportation service to the DMIA and SBIA in accordance with the following:

- a. Air access to the DMIA and SBIA is hereby declared as a development route. Hence, the authority to operate such route may be granted unilaterally without any restriction or limitation on capacity, type of aircraft and non-cabotage traffic rights other than those that may be required by considerations relating to airport security and aviation safety. This authority shall be granted without prejudice to any right or privilege of the applicant under Philippine law, including any Air Services Agreement (ASA) or similar air services arrangement.
- b. The increase in