[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 55, November 26, 2001]

OPENING THE SUB-PORT OF CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AS A PRINCIPAL PORT OF ENTRY TO BE KNOWN AS THE PORT OF CLARK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PURSUANT TO SECTION 702 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, IN RELATION TO THE BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992.

WHEREAS , Republic Act (RA) No. 7227, creating special economic and free port zones provides that it is the declared policy of the government to accelerate the sound and balanced conversion into alternative productive uses of the former US military bases, particularly Clark and Subic;

WHEREAS, the conversion of the Clark Special Economic Zone into an airport-led metropolis (aerotropolis) to complement the economic development of the Subic Freeport and enhance the economic growth of Central Luzon and eventually make the entire Philippines globally competitive is in furthermore of said policy;

WHEREAS , the expanding economic activity at the Sub-port of Clark Special Economic Zone as evidenced by its present collection levels, demands its upgrading or conversion into a Principal Port of Entry;

WHEREAS, converting and opening the Sub-port of Clark under the Port of Manila into a Principal Port of Entry will add prestige to the Clark Special Economic Zone, particularly the Clark International Airport, improve the administrative efficiency of the Port in attending to the needs of importers/locators of the Clark Special Economic Zone, incoming and outgoing passengers and the general public using the Clark International Airport as their port of entry;

WHEREAS , the Metro Clark Advisory Council has called for the upgrading of the status of the Clark Special Economic Zone as a sub-port of Manila into a Principal Port of Entry to be known as the Principal Port of the Clark Special Economic Zone in view of the full operation of the Clark International Airport;

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. Upgrading of the sub-port of Clark Special Economic Zone and opening it as a Principal Port of Entry . – The sub-port of Clark Special Economic Zone is hereby closed and abolished and accordingly removed from the jurisdiction of Collection District No. II-A (Port of Manila), and, in its stead, a new Principal Port of Entry is hereby opened and created to be known as the Port of Clark International Airport, which shall be located inside the secured area consisting of the presently fenced-in Clark Special Economic Zone whose meets and bounds are designated and defined under Presidential Proclamation No. 163, s. of 1993.