

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 293, August 26, 2000]

**FOR THE HOLDING OF THE FIRST NATIONAL SUMMIT ON
CHILDREN**

WHEREAS, in preparation for its participation in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Summit delineating the Goals for Children to be held on September 2001, there is a need for the Philippines to immediately hold a National Summit on Children, which shall take the form of a one-day consultative conference to be participated in by children and adult representatives from multi-sectoral governmental and non-governmental organizations from various regions of the country;

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned National Summit will give the President of the Republic of the Philippines a suitable opportunity to launch the Philippine National Development Plan for Children (otherwise known as "Child 21") and to deliver his State of the Filipino Child address;

WHEREAS, it is indeed appropriate for the above-mentioned National Summit to be held in October 2000, as the month of October is widely regarded as the month for children;

WHEREAS, this Administration is committed to the protection, survival, and development of Filipino children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. *First National Summit on Children* – There shall be held a National Summit on Children on 26 October 2000 at the Heroes Hall, Malacanang Palace, Manila.

Section 2. *National Steering Committee* – The Office shall be the primary policy making and coordinating body of all child development programs and institutions in the Philippines.

Section 3. *Powers and Responsibilities* – (a) The Office of the Presidential Adviser for Children's Affairs shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- i. To advise the President on issues affecting children and to recommend such measures or programs that will complement the Estrada Administration's pro-poor agenda;
- ii. To review all legislation for children and to see if there is a need to introduce or amend legislation for the protection and welfare of children;