

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 408, November 09, 1960 ]**

**PROVIDING A MORE EXPEDITIOUS SYSTEM AND SIMPLER FORMS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND FACILITATION OF FOREIGN TOURIST TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINES**

By virtue of the powers vested in me by law, I, Carlos P. Garcia, President of the Philippines, do hereby order:

1. That with a view to establishing a competitive position for the Philippines in international tourism and for the purpose of encouraging and facilitating foreign travel to this country as a means of further enhancing our prestige abroad and strengthening our economy—

(a) All existing regulations as may be determined by the Board of Travel and Tourist Industry as hampering the expeditious facilitation of foreign tourist travel to the Philippines are hereby authorized to be suspended, except in such cases where because of conditions prevailing at the point of origin of travel, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs feels that suspension is not justified. The said Board is hereby authorized to implement this Order and it shall advise the Office of the President of the Philippines and all other offices concerned of every action taken in accordance herewith.

(b) The Secretary of Foreign Affairs shall prescribe a simple and concise form and an expeditious system of travel documentation of foreign tourists applying for admission to the Philippines, requiring only such absolutely essential information and data as will constitute a record of the identity of the applicants for visas and the purpose of their travel to the Philippines.

(c) The visa fee is hereby fixed at not more than ₱3.00 or its equivalent in acceptable foreign exchange as fixed by the Central Bank unless by agreement with a foreign government such fee is entirely dispensed with on a reciprocal basis. All other charges now required in connection with the documentation of foreign tourists coming to the Philippines are hereby suspended.

2. That in order to carry out the foregoing objectives—

(a) The Secretary of Foreign Affairs may negotiate and enter into agreements with foreign governments desiring to benefit from this Order so as to obtain reciprocal benefit for the Philippines.

(b) The Board of Travel and Tourist Industry shall devise an integrated form that meets substantially the basic requirements of the government offices and agencies concerned, on the basis of the internationally