

[MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 72, September 30, 2014]

DIRECTING THE CREATION OF A NATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

WHEREAS, the Philippines will host the state visit of His Holiness Pope Francis on 15 to 19 January of 2015; and

WHEREAS, the massive scale of the visit is anticipated given the profound and great significance of the visit to the Filipino people, and to all those who will be gathering from all over the country to take part in this celebration.

NOW, THEREFORE, there is hereby created The Papal Visit 2015 National Organizing Committee (PV-NOC).

The PV-NOC shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson:	Executive Secretary
Vice-Chair:	Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs
Members:	Secretary, Department of National Defense
	Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government
	Secretary, Department of Public Works and Highways
	Secretary, Department of Health
	Secretary, Department of Transportation and Communications
	Secretary, Department of Tourism
	Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office
	Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines
	Chief, Philippine National Police
	Chairman, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority

The PV-NOC Chairperson shall take charge of all government participation and responses in connection with the visit of His Holiness Pope Francis, to (a) ensure smooth coordination among public and private sectors, particularly with the Central Committee of the Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines, which is tasked to manage and coordinate all plans and activities, religious and civil, of the Papal Visit; (b) maintain peace and order, and safeguard participants, and (c) prepare a traffic management plan for the efficient and smooth transport of persons and goods during the visit.

The PV-NOC Chairperson may call upon any department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government, local government units, non-government