

[BI, February 24, 2004]

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES FOR THE ACR I-CARD PROJECT

For the information and guidance of all concerned, the following are the guidelines for the implementation of the ACR I-Card Project of the Bureau of Immigration under Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Agreement dated December 18, 2003:

1. *Statement of Policy* - There is an imperative need to modernize and improve efficiency and security of its alien registration, identification and monitoring system in light of the increasing traffic in the country's numerous ports and increased threats of terrorists, transnational criminals and aliens with criminal records, through the implementation of an automated, accurate, fraud-proof and tamper-proof registration, identification and monitoring of registered aliens in the country.

2. *Coverage* - All registered aliens, including their dependents, who have been duly issued paper-based Alien Certificates of Registration (ACRs) and all other aliens who are required to register under the Alien Registration Act.

3. *Definition of terms* -

a. Agreement - refers to the BOT Agreement dated December 18, 2003 including its relevant annexes and such amendments as may be executed thereafter in accordance thereunder.

b. Registered alien - refers to a person who is neither a national or citizen of the Republic of the Philippines who was validly granted a visa and correspondingly issued an Alien Certificate of Registration.

c. Alien Certificate of Registration (ACR) - is an accountable form issued to the following:

1. Native-born
2. Permanent resident under Section 13 and its sub-sections
3. Temporary visitor - one who is coming for business or pleasure or for reasons of health if his stay exceeds six (6) months
4. Treaty trader under Section 9 (d)
5. Temporary student under Section 9 (f)
6. Pre-arranged employee under Section 9 (g) and

other special laws

7. Special resident investor under EO 226 and EO 63

8. Such other aliens as may be required by law to register.

9. For those who are required to register but exempted from immigration fees, they may opt to avail of the ACR I-Card subject to payment of the card fee.

d. ACR - Identity Card or ACR I-Card - it is a microchip-based credit card-sized identification card issued to registered alien replacing the paper-based ACR issued to him/her. It has an embedded computer chip with biometric security features capable of data management and can be updated electronically. It is fraud and tamper-proof/resistant with the following data:

1. Personal information such as name, age, date of birth, place of birth address, etc.
2. Photograph
3. Date and status of admission
4. Visa type granted
5. Biometric information (2 digitalized fingerprint templates)
6. Signature
7. ACR and ICR/CPTV/CRTT/CRTS and CRPE Numbers
8. Travel details
9. Payment of immigration fee details
10. Emigration Clearance Certificate/Special Return Certificate/Re-entry Permit

e. Alien Registration - the process of accurately recording the entry, admission, personal circumstances, residence, exit and death of non-citizens in the Philippines. It involves the documentation of all aliens, whether admitted under nonimmigrant or immigrant status, through the issuance of such forms as are necessary to precisely chronicle their stay and activities in the Philippines.

4. *ACR I-Card Committee* - For purposes of implementing the ACR I-Card Project, a Committee shall be created to check on the validity of the immigration status of and genuineness of the ACR submitted by the applicant as well as to verify all the data entered therein. Upon its verification, it shall endorse the issuance of ACR I-Card.