

[PROCLAMATION NO. 316, September 14, 2017]

**DECLARING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS THE MARITIME AND
ARCHIPELAGIC NATION AWARENESS MONTH AND AMENDING
PROCLAMATION NO. 176 (S. 1963) TO TRANSFER THE
OBSERVANCE OF THE FISH CONSERVATION WEEK FROM THE
THIRD WEEK OF OCTOBER TO THE THIRD WEEK OF SEPTEMBER
OF EVERY YEAR**

WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 2 of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect the nation's marine wealth in its archipelagic waters, territorial sea, and exclusive economic zone, and reserve its use and enjoyment exclusively to Filipino citizens;

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 470 (s. 2003) declared the third Saturday of September of every year as the "International Coastal Clean-up day" to remind and re-awaken the Filipino vigilance in support of the continuing crusade against the debris crisis all over the world;

WHEREAS, Proclamation 866 (s. 1996), as amended, declared the last Friday of September of every year as "National Maritime day" for the purpose of focusing the public's attention on the vital role of the maritime industry in developments in global shipping;

WHEREAS, Proclamation 176 (s. 1963) declared the third week of October of every year as "Fish Conservation Week" to promote the importance of fish and other aquatic products to the people's well-being and the country's economy;

WHEREAS, there is a need to harmonize, integrate and synchronize programs and activities that will raise national consciousness on maritime and archipelagic issues and policies;

WHEREAS, a continuous partnership between the public and private sectors can help raise public awareness on such maritime and archipelagic concerns;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby declare the month of September of every year as the **"Maritime and Archipelagic Nation Awareness Month"** (MANA Mo).

To synchronize the observance of the Fish Conservation Week with the International Coastal Clean-up Day and the national Maritime day, both of which are celebrated in September, Proclamation no. 176 (s. 1963) is hereby amended to transfer the said celebration from the third week of October to the third week of September of every year, beginning 2018.

All agencies and instrumentalities of the National Government, including government-owned or -controlled and local government units, as well as the private