

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 460, December 03, 1997]

**REACTIVATING THE JURISDICTION AND AUTHORITY OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON NATURALIZATION TO CONSIDER AND
EVALUATE PETITIONS FOR NATURALIZATION OF DESERVING
ALIENS AND TO RECOMMEND ACTION THEREON TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, Letter of Instructions No. 270, as amended by Letter of Instructions Nos. 278, 283, 292, and 491 and by Presidential Decrees Nos. 836 and 1379, the Special Committee on Naturalization was granted jurisdiction and authority to receive, consider, and recommend actions on petitions for naturalization of deserving aliens;

WHEREAS, the Memorandum of March 27, 1987 issued by then President Corazon C. Aquino directed the Chairman and Members of the Special Committee on Naturalization "to cease and desist from undertaking any and all proceedings within your functional area of responsibility";

WHEREAS, to date, there are, more or less, 9,000 petitions for naturalization pending with the Special Committee on Naturalization;

WHEREAS, there is a growing clamor among resident-alien who desire to become Filipinos to acquire Philippine citizenship through administrative proceedings, without going through the tedious and more expensive judicial process; and

WHEREAS, it becomes necessary to reactivate the Special Committee on Naturalization in order to address the need to consider and process petitions for naturalization by the speedier and more practical method of administrative proceedings;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL VALDEZ RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and ordain:

Section 1. The Special Committee on Naturalization is hereby reactivated with jurisdiction and authority to receive, consider, and evaluate petitions for naturalization of deserving aliens and, thereafter, to submit recommendation thereon to the President of the Philippines for its approval or denial, as provided for in Letter of Instructions No. 270, as amended by Letters of Instructions Nos. 278, 283, 292 and 491 as well as in Presidential Decrees Nos. 836 and 1379.

Section 2. The Solicitor General, as Chairman of the Special Committee on Naturalization, is hereby authorized to fix the amount of fees for the application form, the docketing thereof, the oath-taking, and such other fees necessary for the processing of said application/petition.