

**[BOI Operations Order No. SBM-2015-018-A,
September 11, 2015]**

**REVISED GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES IN THE PROCESSING
OF MANILA ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE (MECO)
ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (ETA) BY THE BUREAU OF
IMMIGRATION**

Adopted: 11 September 2015

Date Filed: 14 September 2015

WHEREAS, the Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO) is the duly designed instrumentality to promote and protect Philippine interests in Taiwan, with authority to perform functions usually carried out by Philippine foreign missions, including promotion of trade, tourism, economic cooperation, investments, cultural endeavors and visa, legal and consular services;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Immigration (BI) is principally responsible for the administration and enforcement of immigration, citizenship and alien registration laws, including the entry and admission of foreigners into the Philippine in accordance with the provision of Commonwealth Act No. 613 (CA No. 613), as amended, otherwise known as the "*Philippine Immigration Act of 1940*", and such rules and regulation as may be promulgated by the Commissioner of Immigration;

WHEREAS, MECO established an on-line electronic visa application processing system, otherwise known as the "*Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) System*" to facilitate prompt and convenient processing of Philippine tourist visas for Taiwan passport holders in any part of the world;

WHEREAS, MECO and BI need to coordinate and collaborate in the performance of their respective functions, duties, and responsibilities towards the fulfillment of their mandate;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the rule-making power of the Commissioner of Immigration under Section 3, CA No. 613 and Section 29 and 36, Chapter 6, Book IV, Title III Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as "*The Revised Administrative Code of 1987*", the following guidelines and procedures shall be strictly observed:

Section 1. MECO Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA). – The MECO ETA is a Philippine Temporary Visitor's Visa (TVV) under Section 9(a), CA No. 613, obtained through the ETA System in any part of the world by Taiwan passport holders who are fifteen (15) years of age and above, with or without Taiwan Identification Card.

Section 2. Application Systems' Synchronization and Compatibility. – The BI Management Information Services Division (MISD) shall ensure that MECO's ETA