

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 548-A, February 09, 2007]

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 548 AND INVOLVING THE COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 548 was promulgated creating a Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (TFAIR) under the supervision of the Commission on Filipino Overseas (CFO);

WHEREAS, to efficiently address the increasing reports and cases of human trafficking, it is necessary to enhance the coordination between and among agencies engaged in the human trafficking drive;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9208, otherwise known as the Anti-trafficking in Persons Act of 2003, the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) was established to coordinate, monitor and oversee the implementation of the programs against trafficking in persons;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Omnibus Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) shall continue to adopt policies and procedures, prepare and implementation programs toward the eradication of illegal recruitment activities, considering that the POEA has the available manpower, logistics, and expertise needed to effectively combat illegal recruitment;

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of 1987 vests the President with the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Amendment of Executive Order No. 548 and the redefinition of the mandate of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas - Executive Order No. 548 creating the TFAIR under the supervision of CFO is hereby amended. A Task Force against Human Trafficking (TFHT) is hereby created in the CFO, with the following functions:

- a) Recommend to Inter-Agency Committee Against Trafficking (IACAT) policies, programs and services to enhance government initiatives against trafficking in persons;
- b) Conduct surveillance and entrapment operations, in consultation and coordination with the IACAT established under Section 20 of RA 9208, of