

**[DA ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 9, s. 1998,
August 04, 1998]**

**GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE SUGAR REGULATORY
ADMINISTRATION TO FACILITATE THE IMPORTATION OF
154,453 METRIC TONS OF RAW SUGAR IN 1998 AT THE
APPLICABLE TARIFF FOR THE IMPORTATION**

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the flat production, increasing demand, and the expected delay in the harvest of the coming sugar crop due to the effects of the El Niño phenomenon, there will be a shortfall in the supply of sugar of about 200,000 metric tons (MT) by the end of the current crop year;

WHEREAS, due to the anticipated sugar shortage, it is of national interest to import sugar to meet the demand of the domestic sugar market, without causing injury to producers and consumers;

WHEREAS, the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) has consulted sugar planters/producers on the extent of the actual shortage;

WHEREAS, the 1998 minimum access volume (MAV) of 45,547 MT was allocated by the MAV Management Committee in July and will be imported by MAV licensees before the end of August;

WHEREAS, the President issued a memorandum dated 3 August 1998 authorizing the Department of Agriculture to cause the importation of 154, 453 MT of raw sugar at the allowable rates under Executive Order No. 313 dated 29 March 1998;

WHEREAS, the SRA, while is not mandated to engage in sugar trading, has the expertise of facilitating the importation of sugar on behalf of private sector importers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM DOLLENTE DAR, Acting Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by virtue of the powers vested in me, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. The SRA is granted authority to facilitate the importation by the private sector of 154,253 MT of raw sugar. Provided that if the 1998 MAV Plus is approved, the importation should arrive not later than the end of August 1998.

Section 2. The SRA is further authorized to make available its services, manpower, and facilities for the said importation.

Section 3. The importation shall be purely private sector initiative and funding shall be arranged by the private sector importers. The SRA's role shall include, but not limited to, coordination and supervision of the tender for the importation of the sugar.