

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 255

**CREATING THE OFFICE OF A PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER UNDER
THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO IMPLEMENT THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FELICIANO COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

WHEREAS, in line with government's program of good governance, there is a need to enhance professionalism, promote honesty and integrity in the defense and military service, instill ethical standards and inculcate a strong sense of public accountability among civilian and military personnel in the pursuit of a common commitment against graft and corruption.

WHEREAS, in pursuit of social, economic and political reforms, there is a need for vigorous implementation of various policies, reforms, programs and projects aimed at addressing the root causes of military unrest and *coup d'etat* requiring administrative action and even new legislation.

WHEREAS, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 dated 25 July 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, provides continuing authority to the President to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

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

SECTION 1. *Creation and Mandate.* There is hereby created an Office of a Presidential Adviser under the Office of the President to implement the recommendations of the Feliciano Commission.

SECTION 2. *Duties and Functions.* The Presidential Adviser shall have the following duties and functions:

- a) Ensure the institutionalization and monitoring of reform measures in the organizations of the Department of National Defense (DND) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).
- b) Conduct a comprehensive study on the areas of concern as recommended by the Commission and take appropriate actions in the course of implementing the reform measures at the DND and AFP.



- c) Establish a grievance mechanism for AFP personnel to conduct, investigate, verify, evaluate, recommend and monitor the courses of action taken, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations.
- d) Pursue a continuous organizational development process towards the eradication of graft and corruption in the military establishment.
- e) Exercise such duties and functions as the President deems necessary to implement the recommendations contained in the Report of the Feliciano Commission dated 17 October 2003.

SECTION 3. Assistance and Cooperation. All departments, agencies of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations are hereby directed to actively cooperate with and assist in the efficient implementation of this Executive Order. For this purpose, the Presidential Adviser may call upon heads of such government agencies for such assistance as may, from time to time, be necessary.

SECTION 4. Funding. Funds for the initial operating expenses of the Office of the Presidential Adviser to implement the recommendations of the Feliciano Commission shall be sourced from the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, funding requirements shall be included in the budget of the Office of the President.

SECTION 5. Implementation. This Office shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order.

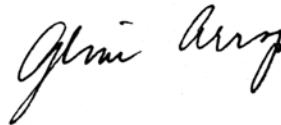
SECTION 6. Repeal. All orders, rules, regulations and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 5th day of December in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

By the President:


ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary






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