

MALACAÑANG PALACE
MANILA

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

KNOW YE , that whereas, the Member States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN") specifically: Brunei Darussalam, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed at Bangkok, on 15 December 1995 the Protocol to Amend the Agreement ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangements;

WHEREAS, the Rules of Origin and its Operational Certification Procedures, which form part of the Agreement on ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangements, shall be amended in accordance with Article 17 (3) of the Agreement which provides for amendments to the Agreement. The foregoing is an implementation of the decision of the Sixth Asean Free Trade Area (AFTA) Council in Phuket, Thailand on 27 April 1995 to phase in all PTA products into the Cept Scheme.

WHEREAS, Annex 1 of the Agreement on "Rules of Origin for the ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangement", previously amended by the Protocol on Improvements on Extension of tariff Preferences under the ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangements signed in Manila on 15 December 1987, and the "Operational Certification Procedures for the Rules of Origin of the ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangements" shall be substituted with the "Rules of Origin for the Common Effective Preferential Tariff Scheme for the ASEAN Free Trade Area" set out in ANNEX 1 and ANNEX 2 respectively which shall form an integral part of this Protocol;

WHEREAS, the Agreement shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification or acceptance by all signatory governments with the Secretary-General of ASEAN which shall be done not later than 01 January 1996;

WHEREAS, this Agreement is not one of those treaties and other international agreements contemplated in Section 21, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution that require the concurrence of the Senate. This is an executive agreement that shall become valid and effective with the ratification of the President.

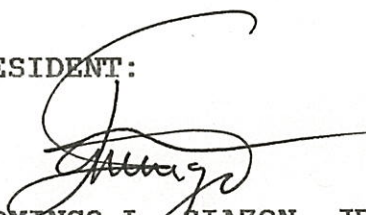
NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, after having seen and considered the aforementioned Protocol to Amend the Agreement ASEAN Preferential Trading Arrangements, do hereby ratify and confirm the same and each and every Article and Clause thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed

GIVEN under my hand at the City of Manila, this 18th day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six and of the Independence of the Philippines the ninety-eight.



BY THE PRESIDENT:



DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs