



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
MANILA

June 18, 1997

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER

NO. 14-97

**SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF GATT-WTO VALUATION PROJECT
IMPLEMENTATION TEAM**

1.0 OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 To establish a special team, task force or core group that has over-all responsibility not only for developing the program for the eventual implementation of the GAT-WTO Valuation Agreement but also for transparency, organizational structure and the many other considerations that form part of the implementation process.
- 1.2 To enable the Customs officials and personnel to handle the operation and application of the new valuation system and to deal with the peculiar problems that may arise from its implementation.

2.0 ORGANIZATION

The Project Implementation Team shall be organized as follows:

- 2.1 OVER-ALL CHAIR
- 2.2. STEERING COMMITTEE
- 2.3 TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
 - 2.3.1 BOC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM
 - 2.3.2 PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

2.4 SECRETARIAT

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3.0 COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS

3.1 OVER-ALL CHAIR - The Commissioner of Customs shall serve as the over-all chair of the Project Implementation Team, and shall have the final approval of the Implementation Program to be developed by the Technical Working Group.

3.2 STEERING COMMITTEE - The Deputy Commissioner for Assessment and Operations shall serve as the chair of this committee with the Director for Import and Assessment Service as the vice-chair. The other members of this committee are: the Assistant Secretary for Revenue Group (representing the Department of Finance), the Director, Administrative Service, the Director, Legal Service and the District Collectors of the Port of Manila, MICP and NAIA Customhouse. It shall have the following functions:

3.2.1 To formulate a general set of guiding principles in the development of the Implementation Program.

3.2.2. To serve as an advisory group to the Technical Working Group in the matter of formulating the Program's

3.2.2.1 General objectives

3.2.2.2 Specific aims

3.2.2.3 Methodology and approach

3.2.2.4 Time-table with specific milestones

3.2.2.5 Personnel resources and logistical requirements

3.2.2.6 Fund sourcing

3.2.3 To monitor the progress of the activities of the Technical Working Group thru a periodic reporting/assessment system or as often as the need arises

3.2.4 To provide for logistical support to the Technical Working Group in the discharge of the latter's functions and responsibilities as defined in the Program

3.2.5 To review and act on the draft of the Implementation Program designed by the Technical Working Group and to recommend to the over-all chair a final draft of the Implementation Program for his review and final approval.

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3.3 TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP - The Director, Import and Assessment Service shall serve as the chair of this Group which shall consist of the following:

3.3.1 BOC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM - which shall be composed of Customs officials to serve as the primary technical resource persons insofar as the content and substance of the Program is concerned.

3.3.2 PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM - who shall be led by the Project Manager/Consultant and shall provide on a full-time basis technical and management support to the Technical Working Group. More particularly, the Project Management Team shall work with the BOC Technical Assistance Team in designing the GATT-WTO Valuation Implementation Program taking into account the following:

3.3.2.1 Administrative Infrastructures

3.3.2.1.1 Operational systems and procedures to be established

3.3.2.1.2 Organizational structure/restructuring to be done

3.3.2.1.3 Personnel/Management training requirements

3.3.2.2 Enabling Legislation and Administrative Regulations

3.3.2.2.1 Review of affected laws, rules and regulations, policies and practices

3.3.2.2.2 Integration of existing programs to complement the new system to be put in place

3.3.2.2.3 Draft the bill for sponsorship in Congress required for the amendment of pertinent laws to make them consistent with the WTO policies

3.3.2.2.4 Draft the necessary implementing Customs rules and regulations for the proper and transparent implementation of the GATT-WTO valuation

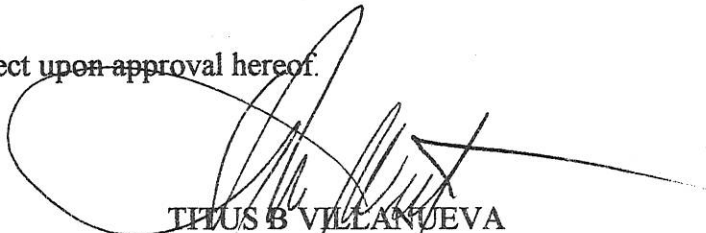
3.4 SECRETARIAT - this shall provide clerical and administrative assistance to the Steering Committee as well as to the Technical Working Group.

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4.0 EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect upon approval hereof.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over the text of the signature block.

TITUS B VILLANUEVA
Acting Commissioner