



No. 184.04

The Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines presents its compliments to the ASEAN Secretariat and has the honor to forward the original Instrument of Ratification for the "**Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership between ASEAN and Japan,**" signed by H.E. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Hon. Rafael E. Seguis, Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

The Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ASEAN Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.



Jakarta, 29 April 2004

Enclosure: as stated

THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT	
RECEIVED 49	FAX/MAIL
DATE 4 04	TIME 15.30



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME,
GREETINGS:**

KNOW YE, that whereas, the *Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership between ASEAN and Japan* was signed in Bali on 8 October 2003;

WHEREAS, the *Agreement*, consisting of eleven (11) articles, aims to implement a Comprehensive Economic Partnership (CEP) arrangement, with elements of a Free Trade Area, between ASEAN and Japan;

WHEREAS, the CEP will provide measures for minimizing barriers to trade, deepening economic linkages, lowering business costs, increasing intra-regional trade and investment, increasing economic efficiency, creating a larger market with greater opportunities and larger economies of scale for the businesses of both ASEAN and Japan, and enhancing the attractiveness of the Parties to capital and talent;

WHEREAS, the *Agreement* provides that ASEAN and Japan will commence negotiations on a CEP Agreement beginning 2005 and complete implementation of the measures for the realization of the ASEAN-Japan CEP by 2012, allowing an additional five (5) year period for newer ASEAN Member States.





NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that **I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, after having seen and considered the *Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Partnership between ASEAN and Japan*, 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 02 day of APR in the year of Our Lord two thousand and four.



Gloria Arroyo



BY THE PRESIDENT:


RAFAEL E. SEGUIS
Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs