

THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT	
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No. 58/2013

The Permanent Mission of the Philippines to ASEAN presents its compliments to the ASEAN Secretariat and has the honor to transmit, for deposit with ASEAN Secretariat, the Instrument of Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the Governments of the Participating Member States of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the Second Pilot Project for the Implementation of a Regional Self Certification System, signed by H.E. President Benigno S. Aquino III on 14 March 2013.

The Permanent Mission of the Philippines would appreciate it if the ASEAN Secretariat could acknowledge receipt of the Instrument of Ratification and inform it of the date of the MOU's entry into force.

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

Jakarta, 5 April 2013



Cc:

All Permanent Representatives to ASEAN

**MALACAÑAN
MANILA**

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

KNOW YE, that whereas, the *Memorandum of Understanding among the Governments of the Participating Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the Second Pilot Project for the Implementation of a Regional Self-Certification System* was signed on 29 August 2012 in Siem Reap, Cambodia;

WHEREAS, under the MOU, the Participating Member States agree to introduce a second pilot project for the implementation of a regional self-certification system within the ASEAN Free Trade Area;

WHEREAS, the self-certification scheme aims to reduce compliance and administrative costs associated with certificate of origin applications and facilitate intra-ASEAN trade by reducing delay at the customs authorities of importing Parties;

WHEREAS, the Participating Member States shall accord to goods originating in the other Participating Member States the preferential tariff treatment set out in Article 19 of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement upon submission of either a certificate of origin (Form D) or an invoice declaration made out by a certified exporter that its products have satisfied the ASEAN origin criteria;

WHEREAS, each Participating Member State undertakes to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of documents, information and other data received from or supplied to other Participating Member States during the period of the implementation of this MOU; and

WHEREAS, the MOU shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by all Participating Member States with the Secretary-General of ASEAN pursuant to Article 10(3) thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that I, **BENIGNO S. AQUINO III**, President of the Philippines, after having seen and considered the *Memorandum of Understanding among the Governments of the Participating Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on the Second Pilot Project for the Implementation of a Regional Self-Certification System*, 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 14th day of March in the year of Our Lord two thousand and thirteen.

BY THE PRESIDENT:

