



No. 77.2000

The Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines presents its compliments to the ASEAN Secretariat and has the honor to transmit a letter dated 22 February 2000 from the Director General of ASEAN-Philippines enclosing the Instrument of Ratification on the Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products signed by H.E. President Joseph Ejercito Estrada on 8 February 2000.

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, 2 March 2000

Encls.: As stated.



THE ASEAN SECRETARIAT	
RECEIVED	MAIL
DATE 6/3/00	TIME 0,30



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

KNOW YE, that whereas, the ASEAN Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products was signed in Singapore on 30 September 1999;

WHEREAS, the Protocol, consisting of nine (9) articles, aims to arrive at commitments to liberalize trade in unprocessed agricultural products and accordingly expand the product coverage under the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Scheme of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA);

WHEREAS, the Protocol provides, among others, that Member States shall phase in highly sensitive products to the CEPT Scheme beginning On 01 January 2001 but not later than 01 January 2005 and shall complete their phasing in by 01 January 2010;

WHEREAS, the Protocol shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification or acceptance by all signatory governments with the Secretary-General of ASEAN;

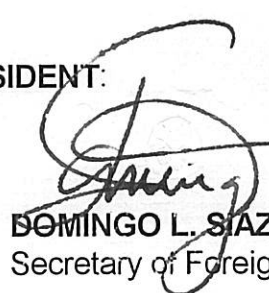
WHEREAS, this Protocol is not one of those treaties and international agreements contemplated in Section 21, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution which require the concurrence of the Senate, but an executive agreement which can be validly entered into by the President in the exercise of his treaty making powers;

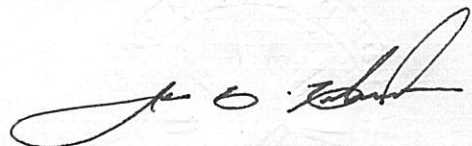
NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that **I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, after having seen and considered the aforementioned ASEAN Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products, do hereby ratify and confirm the same and every Article 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, on this 8th day of February in the year of Our Lord two thousand.

BY THE PRESIDENT:


DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs





**REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS**



ASEAN-PHILIPPINES NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

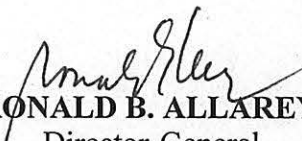
Our ref. no. : ASNSG- -RBA-00
Subject : **Instrument of Ratification on the Protocol on the Special
Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products**
Date : 22 February 2000

Dear Secretary General Severino,

I am pleased to forward herewith, for your information and appropriate action, the original Instrument of Ratification of the Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products signed by H.E. President Joseph Ejercito Estrada on 8 February 2000.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


RONALD B. ALLAREY
Director-General

H.E. RODOLFO C. SEVERINO, JR.
Secretary General of ASEAN
ASEAN Secretariat
Jakarta, Indonesia

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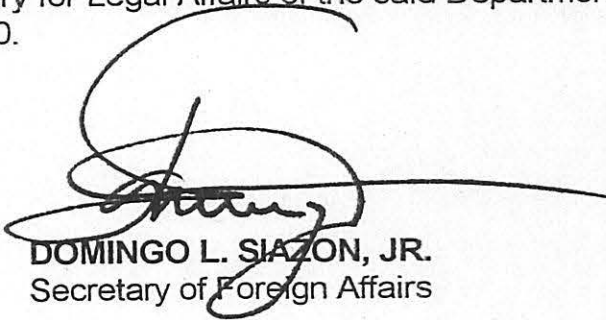
REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS



CERTIFICATION

I **HEREBY CERTIFY** that the attached documents are true and correct copies of the official text of the ASEAN Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, **DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.**, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, have caused the seal of the Department of Foreign Affairs to be affixed and my name subscribed to before the Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs of the said Department, in the City of Pasay, this 12th day of January 2000.



DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 12th day of January 2000 by the Honorable Domingo L. Siazon, Jr., Secretary of Foreign Affairs.



FRANKLIN M. EBDALIN
Assistant Secretary for Legal Affairs

