

MALACAÑANG

RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION No. 248

DECLARING THE SECOND WEEK OF MARCH OF  
EVERY YEAR AS PHILIPPINE FOREIGN TRADE  
WEEK

WHEREAS, the development of Philippine foreign trade is a vital factor in the growth and stabilization of the economy of the country;

WHEREAS, there exists a constant and urgent need of developing new outlets for Philippine export products and increasing their sales in the world markets;

WHEREAS, such expansion of the export trade with a steady and good demand for Philippine products abroad holds the key to the increase in domestic production and the rapid development of the country's natural resources;

WHEREAS, the supplies of many articles needed for domestic consumption as well as for agricultural and industrial development have to be obtained through foreign trade; and

WHEREAS, it is important to stimulate greater interest in foreign trade among the people and to give encouragement and promote organization and cooperation among those who are engaged in foreign trade;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ramon Magsaysay, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the second week of March of every year as Philippine Foreign Trade Week and enjoin the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, in cooperation with other chambers of commerce and trade associations, to take charge of the observance thereof, and the business community in general to extend its cooperation in the appropriate observance of the week.

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

Done in the City of Manila, this 25th day of January, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and fifty-six, and of the Independence of the Philippines, the tenth.

[SEAL]

RAMON MAGSAYSAY  
*President of the Philippines*

By the President:

FORTUNATO DE LEON  
*Acting Executive Secretary*