## MALACAÑANG 1 Manila

## PROCLAMATION NO. 204

## DECLARING AUGUST 8-14, EVERY YEAR HENCEFORTH AS "ASEAN WEEK"

WHEREAS, the Republic of the Philippines is one of the founding members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and is one of the signatories to the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967;

WHEREAS, the Republic of the Philippines, as part of its foreign policy as an active member of the Association, wishes to enhance the country's commitment to work closely with other ASEAN member countries toward developing a strong sense of regional identity, awareness and solidarity with all peoples of ASEAN;

WHEREAS, the Republic of the Philippines reaffirms its determination to forge a meaningful consensus with other ASEAN member countries on policies and programs dedicated towards achieving a peaceful, progressive and prosperous community of Southeast Asian Nations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby proclaim August 8-14 every year henceforth as "ASEAN WEEK".

For this purpose, I call upon the Secretary of Foreign Affairs to spearhead and coordinate the activities nationwide to celebrate ASEAN week.

I call upon all Heads of Departments, Bureaus, Offices and Agencies and Instrumentalities of the Government specially those involved in ASEAN projects, nongovernment organizations and the private sector to actively lead the festivities and programs to commemorate ASEAN's Week every year.

I call upon the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports to instruct all schools nationwide, especially elementary and high school, to conduct their own ASEAN awareness activities during the "ASEAN WEEK".

I call upon the Office of the Press Secretary, members of mass media, cultural and civic institutions, government and non-government organizations to actively support and play a leading role in the campaign to foster ASEAN awareness in the Philippines.

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

DONE in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 6th day of July in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety-three.

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By the President:

TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA, JR. Executive Secretary

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