

**MALACANANG PALACE  
MANILA**

**INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION**

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

**KNOW YE** , that whereas, the **Member** States of the Association of South East Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "**ASEAN**") specifically: **Brunei Darussalam**, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed at Bangkok, on **15 December 1995** the ASEAN Framework Agreement on **Services**;

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement, consisting of fourteen (14) Articles, aims to enhance cooperation in services amongst Member States; to substantially **eliminate** restrictions to trade in services amongst Member State; and to **liberalise** trade in services;

the Agreement provides that the Member States shall strengthen and enhance existing cooperation efforts in service sectors and develop **cooperation** In sectors that are not covered by existing cooperation arrangements;

the **Agreement** provides that liberalization of trade in services shall be realized by: eliminating substantially all existing discriminatory **measures** and market access limitation amongst Member States; and prohibiting new or **more** discriminatory measures and market access limitations;

**WHEREAS**, the **Agreement provides** that Member States shall enter into **negotiations** on measures affecting trade in specific service sectors;

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides that each Member State may recognize the education or experience appraised or licenses granted in another Member States. Such recognition may be based upon an agreement or arrangement with **the Member** State concerned or may be accorded autonomously;

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides that the benefits granted pursuant thereto, shall be denied to a service supplier who is a natural person of a **non** - Member State or a **juridical** person owned or controlled by persons of a non - Member States constituted under the laws of a Member **State**, but not engaged in substantive business **operations** in the territory of Member State/s;

, the Protocol on **Dispute Settlement Mechanism** for **ASEAN** shall be referred to with respect to **disputes** between Member States **ing** the interpretation or application of this Agreement and arising therefrom;

the Agreement provides that **conditions** for Modification of **Commitments** and **Compensatory Adjustments** for Member States affected **modification**;

the Agreement shall enter into force upon the deposit of of ratification or **acceptance** by all signatory governments **with** the **Secretary-General** of **ASEAN**;

this Agreement is not one of those treaties and other **international agreements contemplated in Section 21, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution** that **require the concurrence** of the Senate. **This** is an executive **agreement** shall become valid and effective with the **ratification** of the **President**.


**I, FIDEL V. RAMOS**, be it known **that** I, **FIDEL V. RAMOS, President** of the **Republic** of the Philippines, **after** having seen and considered the **mentioned ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services**, do hereby ratify and **confirm** the **same** and each and every Article and Clause **thereof**.

**HI TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have **herewith set** my hand and caused the seal of the **Republic of** the Philippines to be **affixed**

under **my** hand at **the** City of Manila, **this** day of **September** in the year of Our Lord one **thousand nine hundred and ninety-six** and of the Independence of the **Philippines the ninety-eight**



0? **THE PRESIDENT:**



**DOMINGO L. SISON, JR.**  
**Secretary of Foreign Affairs**