MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2003-003

TO: Economic Zone Export-Producer Enterprises
   PEZA Economic Zone Administrators and Managers
   PEZA Enterprise Assistance Divisions
   PEZA Foreign National Unit

FROM: Director General LILIA B. DE LIMA

SUBJECT: Increase in DOJ Visa Filing and Processing Fees

DATE: 26 May 2003

The Department of Justice has issued Circular No. 33 dated 30 April 2003 providing for an increase in the Visa Filing Fee from P 200.00 to P 2,500.00 and the U.P. Legal Research Fee for visa processing from P 10.00 to P 25.00, to be charged to foreign nationals applying for the following:

1. Issuance of Special Non-Immigrant or 47(a)2 Visas, or for change of admission status to Special Non-Immigrant, or for extension of stay as Special Non-Immigrant;

2. Implementation of approved change of admission status from Temporary Visitor to Special Non-Immigrant; and

3. Revalidation of the approved Special Non-Immigrant or 47(a)2 Visa.

The DOJ Circular, which was published in The Philippine Star on 12 May 2003 and the Philippine Daily Inquirer on 20 May 2003, will take effect starting 04 June 2003. (A copy of the DOJ Circular is attached for easy reference.)

In view of the foregoing, effective 01 June 2003, PEZA will correspondingly increase the PEZA Visa Facilitation Fee charged to foreign investors and non-resident alien employees of economic zone enterprises, including their qualified dependents, from P 2,500.00 to P 4,815.00, in order to reflect the P2,315.00 increase in DOJ Visa Filing and Processing Fees.

For your information and guidance.

"Trabaho at kabuhayan na bawat tao"
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 33

TO ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT: INCREASE IN, AND COLLECTION OF, FILING FEES TO COVER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROCESSING OF:

1. APPLICATION FOR ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL NON-IMMIGRANT VISA, OR FOR CHANGE OF ADMISSION STATUS TO, OR FOR EXTENSION OF STAY AS, SPECIAL NON-IMMIGRANT UNDER SECTION 47(a)(2) OF THE PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1940, AS AMENDED;

2. REQUEST FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED CHANGE OF ADMISSION STATUS FROM TEMPORARY VISITOR/S TO SPECIAL NON-IMMIGRANT/S UNDER SECTION 47(a)(2) OF THE AFORESAID IMMIGRATION ACT;

3. REQUEST FOR REVALIDATION OF THE APPROVED SPECIAL NON-IMMIGRANT VISA/S;

4. APPLICATION/REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY OR TO EXTEND THE EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN TECHNICIANS IN A WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY NATIONALIZED TRADE, BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY UNDER SECTION 2-A OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 106, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 715, AND

In addition to the documentary requirements prescribed by Office Circular No. 32 dated November 18, 1980 and Office Circular No. 1 dated February 12, 1981 (Prescribing the procedures for the processing of applications for issuance of special non-immigrant visas, or for change of admission status to, or for extension of stay as, special non-immigrants under Section 47(a)(2) of the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940, as amended) and Ministry Order No. 21 dated December 1, 1980 (amending Office Circular dated May 25, 1976, prescribing the procedures for the processing of applications for authority to employ foreign technicians in wholly or partially nationalized trade, business, industry or undertaking) there shall be collected and paid to the Cashier’s Office of this Department to cover administrative costs for services rendered a Filing Fee of P2,500.00 and a U.P. Legal Research Fee of P25.00 per individual applicant and each member of his/her family accompanying him/her with respect to above items nos. 1, 2, and 3 and per applicant individual or entity with respect to items nos. 4 and 5.

This Circular is being issued pursuant to Memorandum Circular No. 121 dated November 2, 1990 and Executive Order No. 197 dated January 13, 2000, both of the Office of the President, directing all departments, bureaus and offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations to revise and increase their fees and charges “at just and reasonable rates sufficient to cover administrative costs” but “not less than twenty (20) percent”.

The previous Circulars on the same subject matter are hereby amended insofar as the amount of filing fees to be paid is concerned.

This Circular takes effect immediately.

SIMEON A. DATUMANONG
Secretary