DECLARING SUNDAY,OCTOBER 5, 2003, AS “NATIONAL TEACHERS' DAY”

PROCLAMATION NO. 479, October 01, 2003

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WHEREAS, education is an investment in the future of individuals and of societies and the right to education is primarily the right to participate in the life of the modern world:

WHEREAS, while the importance of education is more widely recognized today than ever before, those who play the central role in providing it – the estimated 500,000 teachers nationwide – are often overlooked or taken for granted;

WHEREAS, the International Commission on Education for the 21st Century, in its report to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), stated that improving the quality of education depends on first improving the recruitment, training, social status and conditions of work of teachers; they need the appropriate knowledge and skills, personal characteristics, professional prospects and motivation if they are to meet the expectations placed upon them;

WHEREAS, the UNESCO General Conference in 1995 approved the recommendations of Education International (EI) to designate October 5 as World Teachers' Day, and

WHEREAS, October 5 is dedicated to correcting this situation and recognizing the devoted and committed teachers on whom the education of our children depends.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare Sunday, October 5, 2003, as "NATIONAL TEACHERS' DAY", and that the message of the day is: "GOOD TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE".

DONE in the City of Manila, this 1st day of October, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.)ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary

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