

DECLARING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2004, A DAY OF NATIONAL REFLECTION ON THE 1994 GENOCIDE IN RWANDA IN DEEP SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF RWANDA AND ALL HUMANITY

PROCLAMATION NO. 598, April 02, 2004

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WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly has designated April 7, 2004 the International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda, and has encouraged Members States to observe the International Day in memory of the victims of the genocide;

WHEREAS, the Filipino people join the people of Rwanda and all humanity in remembering the loss of many men, women and children during the genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in Rwanda and in the territory of neighboring States between 1 January and 31 December 2004;

WHEREAS, peace-loving peoples of the world condemn such dastardly and deplorable acts of inhumanity;

WHEREAS, ever since the battle of Solferino in 1859, the need to protect the ultimate casualties of conflict – the civilians, the women, the children – remains a compelling need;

WHEREAS, as a manifestation of our absolute condemnation of genocide as a crime against all of humankind, and as a gesture of our solidarity with the people of Rwanda and Africa in remembering the untold grief brought about by the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, it is fitting and proper that the Philippines join the United Nations in observing an International Day of Reflection.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare Wednesday, April 7, 2004, a Day of National Reflection on the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda. On that day, flags of all government buildings and installations, at home and abroad, shall be flown at the half-mast.

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 2nd day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

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