

**MALACAÑANG**  
**Manila**

MFN 9203

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

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MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 102

**CREATING A NEW NEGOTIATING PANEL FOR THE GOVERNMENT FOR  
THE SULU HOSTAGE PROBLEM**

WHEREAS, the hostage-taking problem in Sulu has taken an international dimension owing to the nationalities of the hostages taken;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to create a new panel to address the situation and hasten the release of the hostages.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested upon me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a new negotiating panel for the Government to resolve the Sulu hostage problem, to be composed of the following:

1. Hon. Robert Aventajado - Chief Negotiator  
Presidential Assistant  
for Economic Affairs
2. Hon. Abdusakur M. Tan - Member  
Governor of Sulu
3. Dr. Farouk Hussein - Member  
Assistant Secretary for  
Education for Peace Program
4. Hon. Nur P. Misuari - Adviser  
Regional Governor, ARMM
5. Dr. Rajab Azzarouq - Adviser
6. Mr. Ustadz Ibramin Ghazali - Emissary

SEC. 2. The Panel is hereby authorized to take such appropriate measures and, consistent with the best interests of the government, to agree to such terms and conditions

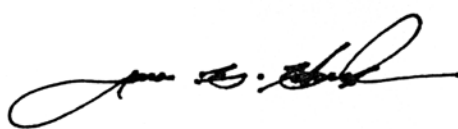


as may be necessary for the expeditious and reasonable conclusion of the hostage situation.

SEC. 3. The Panel, through the Chief Negotiator, shall provide the President with periodic update of its activities.

SEC. 4. This order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, in the year of our Lord, two thousand.



By the President:



RONALDO B. ZAMORA  
Executive Secretary

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