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MAP Statement on the 17% Tariff imposed by the United States

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We, in the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) express our concern over recent Global Trade developments, particularly the 17% tariff imposed by the United States. This is a reality that will spread across many countries and will clearly have varied economic impact to each nation.


We urgently request the appropriate government agencies - - - including the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), the National Security Council, the Department of Finance (DOF), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) - - - to consider the impact of this new global order on the Philippines' economic security.

As what many countries have already done in anticipation of these developments, we recommend the formation of an ECONOMIC SECURITY COUNCIL under the Office of the President, composed of the above-named government agencies together with appropriate private sector and industry representatives. Many foreign governments have acknowledged the value and effectiveness of having their respective private sector and industry as key partners in addressing these new challenges.

The ECONOMIC SECURITY COUNCIL should be headed by and composed of individuals with extensive diplomatic, economic and industry expertise. The COUNCIL's main tasks would be to compile data and information, analyze their correlation and impact on our economy, and recommend risk-mitigating measures for the affected industries. It can also identify opportunities and alternative markets that these developments will provide for our own economy and businesses. It can provide important scenario modelling analysis which will help the President and the Executive Branch in developing strategies, and in negotiations with other governments in dealing with the new realities of international trade.

While our country at this time is seen as not as negatively affected as others, with the global economy being an integrated ecosystem, we cannot discount the possibility that as other countries are affected, it may prosper into a contagion that will eventually affect us.

We firmly believe that recent developments require a different paradigm and approach.


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