

REVENUE MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 49-2005 issued on September 19, 2005 publishes the full text of Executive Order (EO) No. 459 issued by the President of the Philippines entitled "Streamlining the Procedure in the Disposition of Requests of Government Officials and Employees for Authority to Travel Abroad".

The following officials shall seek approval from the Office of the President for authority to travel abroad:

- a. Members of the Cabinet and officials of equivalent rank;
- b. Heads of government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) and government financing institutions (GFIs) under or attached to the Office of the President; and
- c. Heads of agencies under or attached to the Office of the President.

All other government officials and employees seeking authority to travel abroad shall henceforth seek approval from their respective heads of agencies (Department Secretaries or their equivalents), regardless of the length of their travel and the number of delegates concerned.

The foregoing authority shall not preclude the Office of the President from requiring any official and employee to secure authority to travel abroad from the Office of the President.

All those empowered to approve travels abroad shall submit a quarterly report to the Office of the President of all approved and authorized travels abroad of their officials and employees, indicating therein the names of the travelers, their destinations, the duration, the nature and purpose of the travel and the costs of travel.

All those empowered to approve travels abroad are hereby authorized to approve up to 75% of their allocated travel budget, in excess of which, they are required to secure from the Office of the President authorization to utilize the balance.