

**MALACAÑANG**  
Manila

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**PROCLAMATION NO. 854**

**DECLARING SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2006 AS PHILIPPINES-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP DAY**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines and Japan established diplomatic relations with the ratification of the Peace Treaty and Reparations Agreement on July 23, 1956;

**WHEREAS**, Japan is a sister democracy and a major player in regional affairs, considering its influence in the security situation and economic development of East Asia and the region;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines and Japan enjoy close, friendly and vibrant relations that have been mutually beneficial to both countries and peoples;

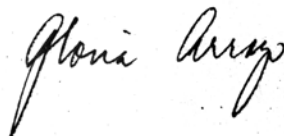
**WHEREAS**, relations cover a wide range of fields, particularly in the political and security cooperation, trade and economic cooperation, development assistance, socio-cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and labour and consular matters;

**WHEREAS**, the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Philippine-Japan relations merits appropriate observance and official commemoration.

**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 Sunday, July 23, 2006 as **Philippines-Japan Friendship Day** to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Japan.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.



By the President:



**EDUARDO R. ERMITA**  
Executive Secretary

