BILATERAL

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING A VISA WAIVER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

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Excellency:

In the desire to strengthen the links of friendship, understanding and collaboration that have traditionally existed between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the United Mexican State, and increase t he development ai1d cooperation between our two countries, in order to facilitate the travel of our nationals, I have the honor to refer to the proposal of your Government to sign a visa Waiver Agreement for diplomatic of official passport holders of our two countries and to confirm the following:

1.

That the nationals of the Republic of the Philippines and the United Mexican States who are holder of diplomatic and official passports shall not be required to obtain a visa to enter and stay in Philippine and Mexican territory for a period which doe! not exceed ninety (90) days from the date of entry.

2.

That the citizens of the Contracting Parties may enter the territory of the other Contracting Party without visa requirement and may carry out official and tourist activities or travel to a third country.

3.

To carry out activities other than those indicated above, the citizens of either Contracting Parties referred to in this Agreement shall be required to secure the appropriate visa/migratory quality status issued by the competent authorities of each Contracting Party in accordance with their respective laws and regulations without prejudice to the provisions of the following article.

4.

The citizens of either Contracting Parties referred to in this Agreement may enter and depart from Mexico and the Philippines by any point authorized for that purpose by the competent migration authorities, without any restriction except for those stipulated in the security, migratory, customs and sanitary provisions and others which may be legally applicable to the holders of diplomatic and official passports.

5.

The personnel holding diplomatic and official passports assigned lo the Embassy or to any of the Consulates of the Republic of the Philippines located in Mexico or to the Embassy or to any of the Consulates of the United Mexican States located in the Philippines, respectively, shall not be required to obtain the corresponding visa, but shall be required to obtain within thirty (30) days after date of entry, the necessary authorizations applicable to the personnel of foreign mission residing in the country in accordance with their laws. This shall also apply to

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personnel holding diplomatic and official passports assigned. to recognized official international organizations based in the territory of either Contracting Parties.

6.

Both Contracting Parties reserve the right to refuse admission to persons considered undesirable or likely to endanger the public peace, public order, public health or national security and to shorten the stay of those who become undesirable in the course of their stay in the territory of the Receiving Slate.

7.

Each Contracting Party can suspend this Agreement either in whole or in part, due lo reasons of public order, security or health protection. The suspension shall be notified in writing to the other Party through diplomatic channels, thirty (30) days prior to the entry into force of this measure.

8.

This agreement shall be in force for an indefinite period. Either Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement by sending to the other Contracting Party a written notice of termination, through diplomatic channels. In such case, the validity of the present Agreement shall expire ninety (90) days from the receipt of the notice of termination.

9.

The Contracting Parties further commit themselves to notify their respective consular, immigration and customs authorities of the entry into force of. this Agreement.

I have the honor to communicate to Your Excellency the acceptance of the Philippine Government of your proposal. This reply note to Your Excellency, dated today, shall constitute an agreement and shall enter into force thirty (30) days after it is received by Your Excellency.

I avail myself of this oppor1u·nity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of "!Y highest consideration.

Secretary of Foreign Affairs

Republic of the Philippines

JOSE ANGEL GURRIA

Secretary of Foreign Affairs

United Mexican States

Mexico, D.F., a 12 de mayo de 1997.

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Excelentisimo senor
Domingo L. Siazon Jr.,
Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores
de la Republica de Filipinas.

Senor Ministro:

Tomando en consideraci6n los tradicionales vinculos de amistad y buen entendimiento que unen a los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y a la Republica de Filipinas, me permito proponer a Vuestra Excelencia, en nombre de mi Gobierno, la firma de un Acuerdo para la Supresion de Visas en Pasaportes Diplomaticos y Oficiales, con objeto de simplificar la internacion y el transito en nuestros territories de los titulares de dichos pasaportes, en los siguientes terminos:

1. Los titulares de pasaportes diplomaticos y oficiales expedidos por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, podran ingresar y permanecer en el territorio de la Republica de Filipinas, hasta por un periodo de noventa dias, contados a partir de la fecha de internacion , sin requerir del otorgamiento previo de una visa.

lgualmente, los titulares de pasaportes diplomaticos y oficiales expedidos por el Gobierno de la Republica de Filipinas, podran ingresar y permanecer en territorio mexicano, hasta por un periodo de noventa dias, contados a partir de la fecha de internacion, sin requerir de la expedicion previa de una visa.

2. Los titulares de los pasaportes a que se refiere el presente Acuerdo podran ingresar tanto a Mexico como a Filipinas sin el requerimiento de la visa y realizar actividades oficiales, turisticas o transitar hacia un tercer pals.

Para llevar a cabo actividades distintas a las senaladas en el parrafo precedente requeriran en todo caso, en forma previa, de la correspondiente calidad y caracteristica migratoria queen los terminos de las leyes corresponda expedir a las autoridades competentes.

3. El personal que vaya a ser adscrito a la Embajada o alguno de los Consulados de los Esta dos Unidos Mexicanos o de la Republica de Filipinas, no requeriran de la visa correspondiente en forma previa a su traslado al pais de destino, pero deberan ser acreditados ante la correspondiente Cancilleria dentro de los treinta dias posteriores al ingreso al pais, ocasion en que se les proveera de la calidad y caracteristica migratoria que en los terminos de las leyes corresponda al personal de Misiones extranjeras que residan en el pais.

4. Los titulares de los pasaportes a que se refiere el presente Acuerdo, podran ingresar y salir de Mexico y de Filipinas por cualquier punto autorizado para ello por las autoridades migratorias competentes, sin mayor restriccion que las establecidas en las disposiciones de seguridad, migratorias, aduanales, sanitarias y de cualquier otra indole que fueran legalmente aplicables a quienes sean portadores de pasaportes diplomaticos y oficiales.

5. Los Gobiernos de Mexico y de Filipinas se obligan a notificar de inmediato a las autoridades consulares, migratorias, aduanales y demas que sean competentes, la formalizacion de este Acuerdo, con objeto de garantizar su cumplimiento.

6. Cualquiera de las Partes podra dar por terminado el presente Acuerdo, mediante notificaci6n escrita, dirigida a la Otra a traves de la via diplomatica, con tres meses de antelacion a la fecha de su expiracion.

Si la anterior propuesta es aceptable para el Gobierno de la Republica de Filipinas, esta Nata y la de respuesta de Vuestra Excelencia en la que conste dicha conformidad, constituiran un Acuerdo entre nuestros dos Gobiernos que entrara en vigor treinta dias despues de su firma.

Aprovecho la oportunidad para renovar a Vuestra Excelencia el testimonio de mi mas alta y distinguida consideracion.

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(Sgd.) Angel Gurria

Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores

de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos

Entry into Force: May 12, 1997

Angel Gurria

Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores de las Estados Unidos Mexicanos

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