BILATERAL

EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES CONCERNING THE RECIPROCAL ABOLITION OF TOURIST VISA REQUIREMENTS

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Note: The Agreement entered into force December 10, 1969.

Reference; This Agreement is also published in VIII DFA TS No. 2, p. 214.

Manila, 10 October 1969

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the conversations between the representatives of our two Governments concerning the proposal of my Government for the abolition of tourist visa requirements for the nationals of our two countries, and to confirm the following understandings reached between our Governments on the subject:

1. Mexican nationals, irrespective of" the place where they come from, shall be free to enter the Republic of the Philippines and remain there as tourists for a period not exceeding fifty-nine (59) days without the necessity of obtaining previously a consular visa, provided that they are holders of valid passports issued by the appropriate Mexican authorities.

2. Philippine nationals, regardless of the place where they come from, shall be free to enter the United Mexican States and remain thereat as tourists for a period not exceeding one hundred and eighty (180) days without the necessity of obtaining previously a consular visa, provided that they are holders of valid passports issued by the appropriate authorities of the Philippine Government.

3. For puiposes of this visa waiver, it will be understood that only those travelling for pleasure, health, scientific, artistic or athletic activities without compensation shall be considered as tourist.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 set forth above shall not apply to holders of diplomatic and official passports, and each Party reserves the right to observe its own laws and regulations with respect to the issuance of the appropriate visas corresponding to the special status of the holders thereof.

5. The visa waiver agreed upon in this Agreement does not exempt Mexican nationals proceeding to the Philippines, or Philippine nationals entering Mexico from the obligation to observe the laws and regulations in force in the host country, particularly those concerning the taking of employment or the exercise of any profession, with or without any com- pensation. This obligation includes the necessity of obtaining, prior to the arrival in the host country, the necessary immigration papers in accordance with the regulations in force in said country, which will be issued free.

6. Each Party reserves the right to refuse entry into its territory of nationals of the other Party who may be considered undesirable or who do not comply with the laws and regulations mentioned in the next pre- ceding paragraph.

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7. Each Party may temporarily suspend this Agreement for reasons of public order or security. Such suspension shall be immediately notified to the other Party through diplomatic channel.

8. Each Party may denounce this Agreement by notifying the other party in writing. The denunciation shall take effect ninety (90) days from the date of the receipt of the notification.

9.This Agreement shall enter into force on 10 December 1959.

If these understandings are acceptable to Your Excellency's Government, I have the honor to propose that this Note and Your Excellency's reply concurring therein constitute an Agreement between our two Governments.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Sgd.) CARLOS P. ROMULO
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency

Antonio Carrilo Flores

Secretary of Foreign Relations

Tlatololco, D. F.

TLATOLOLCO, D. F.,

10 de Octubre de 1969.

Senor Secretario:

Tengo a honra hacer referencia a la atenia Nota de Vuestra Excelencia, fechada el dia de hoy, cuyo texto, vertido al espanol, es el siguiente:

> "Tengo el honor de hacer referencia a las conversaciones entre representantes de nuestros dos Gobiemos respecto a la proposicion de mi Gobierno para suprimir el requisito de visa para los nacionales de nuestros dos paises que viajen como turistas y confirmar los acuerdos logrados entre nuestros dos Gobiemos en la materia:
>
> "1. Los nacionales mexicanos, cualquiera que sea el lugar de donde procedan, podran entrar en la Republica de Filipinas y permanecer en ella en calidad de turistas durante un periodo maximo de 59 dias, sin necesidad de obtener proviamente una visa consular siempre que sean titulares de un pasaporte valido expedido por las autoridades mexicanas competences.
>
> "2. Los nacionales filipinos, cualquiera que sea el lugar de donde procedan, podran entrar en los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y permanecer en ellos en calidad de turistas durante un periodo maximo de 180 dias sin necesidad de obtener previamente una visa consular, siempre que sean titulares de un pasaporte valida expedido por las autoridades filipinas competentes.
>
> "3. Para los efectos de los dos parrafos anteriores se entendera que son turistas quienes viajan exclusivamente con fines de recreo o de salud o para la realizacion de actividades cientificas, artisticas o deportivas, no remuneradas o lucrativas.
>
> "4. Las disposiciones de los parrafos 1 y 2 antes seiialadas no se aplicaran a las personas que sean portadoras de pasaportes diplomaticos y oficiales ya que, por el estatuto especial a que estas son acreedoras, cada una de las Partes se reserva el derecho de seguir observando respecto a ellas el regimen de visas.
>
> "5. Queda confirmado que la abolicion de la visa en los casos previs-tos en el presente Acuerdo no exceptua a

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los nacionales mexicanos que se dirijan a la Republica de Filipinas ni a los nacionales filipinos que se dirijan a Mexico de la obligacion de cumplir con las leyes y reglamentos de pais de destino en materia de migracion, particularmente las que se refieren al ejercicio de cualquier profesion o empleo y, en general, a las actividades que puedan desarrollar los extranjeros. Esta obligacion incluye la de obtener, con anterioridad a la llegada al pais de destino, la documentacion migratoria que sea necesaria segun las disposiciones en vigor en dicho pais, la cual sera expedida gratuitamente.

"6. Cada una de las dos partes se reserva el derecho de negar e! acceso a sus respectivos territorios a toda persona que considere indese-able oque nopuedademostrarhabercumplidocon las leyes y reglamentos a que se refiere el parrafo anterior.

"7. Cualquiera de las dos Partes podra suspender este Acuerdo tem-poralmente por razones de orden publico o de seguridad. La suspension debera ser notificada inmediatamente a la otra Parte por la via diplomatica.

"8 Cualquiera de las dos Partes podra denunciar el presente Acuedo mediante aviso escrito a la otra Parte. La denuncia surtira efectos 90 dias despues de la fecha de recibo del aviso.

"9. Este Acuerdo entrara en vigor el dia 10 de diciembre de 1969. En caso de que el Gobierno de Vuestra Excelencia encuentre aceptable esta proposicion, mi Gobierno considerare que la presente Nota y la Nota de Vuestra Excelencia manifestando su conformidad constituyen un Acuerdo entre nuestros dos Gobiemos."

En respuesta, me es grato comunicar a Vuestra Excelencia que mi Gobierno esta de acuerdo con los puntos propuestos y, por tanto, la Nota de Vuestra Excelencia, fechada el dia de hoy, y esta nota constituyen un Acuerdo sobre la materia.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi mas alta y distinguida consideracion.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO CARRILO FLORES
Secretary of Foreign Relations

Excelentisimo Senor Carlos P. Romulo,

Secretario de Asuntos Exteriores de la

Republica de Filipinas

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