

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DE...

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The Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants"),

Guided by the principles of sovereign equality of states;

Aspiring to strengthen the friendly relations between the Republic of the Philippines and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

Considering the importance and usefulness of consultations and exchange of opinions at different levels on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest; and

Wishing to establish and further facilitate mutually beneficial cooperation;

Have reached the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH I

The Participants will hold regular consultations on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest. The consultations under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be held at the level of Undersecretary / Secretary of both countries. The date, venue and agenda of the consultations will be determined through diplomatic channels. By mutual agreement, expert working groups may be formed to consider specific or urgent matters.

PARAGRAPH II

The Participants will encourage cooperation and direct contacts between members of their diplomatic services. They will promote the organization and appropriate implementation of joint activities and programs, as may be mutually agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

PARAGRAPH III

The agenda of the consultations will be defined in advance on the basis of mutual agreement. An agreed record of discussions of the consultations will be prepared jointly by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH IV

Should there be any difference on the interpretation or implementation of this MOU, the Participants will immediately consult each other with a view to settling the matter amicably.

PARAGRAPH V

The MOU is not intended to create any legally binding obligations under international law. It will not in any way affect the obligations of each country under international conventions to which that country is a party to.

PARAGRAPH VI

The MOU may be amended by mutual consent of the Participants at the request of either Participant. Any amendment will take effect in accordance with Paragraph VII.

PARAGRAPH VII

The MOU will become effective upon signature and will be valid for a period of five (5) years. This MOU will be automatically extended for successive periods of five (5) years each, unless one Participant notifies the other Participant in writing of its intention to terminate this MOU and the same will be deemed terminated six (6) months after the date of the notice of termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Undersigned being duly authorized by the respective governments, have signed this MOU.

Done in duplicate at Manila on this third (3rd) day of February 2016 in the English and Sinhala languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation and implementation of this MOU, the English text will prevail.

For the Department of
For the Ministry of Foreign
Foreign Affairs of the
Affairs of the Democratic
Republic of the Philippines
Socialist Republic of Sri
Lanka

(Sgd.) ALBERT F. DEL ROSARIO (Sgd.) ARUNI RANARAJA
Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ambassador of Sri Lanka to
the Philippines

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