

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT COMMISSION FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ...

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/d4bed78d0622/>

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties"),

CONVINCED of the necessity of lasting and effective cooperation in the interests of both countries,

GUIDED by the desire to strengthen the existing friendly relations and to promote the expansion of bilateral cooperation between the two countries based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and full respect of sovereignty;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties shall establish a Joint Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") to facilitate consultation and cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the political, economic, trade, social, cultural and other fields of mutual interest.

The Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) and the Joint Commission on Trade (JCT) between the Philippines and Vietnam agreed to be established under the Agreement of 27 February 1992 shall henceforth be subsumed by the Commission thus established.

ARTICLE II

The Commission shall consider ways and means to promote the aforesaid objectives and to ensure the proper coordination and implementation of its decisions and of this Agreement. It shall, furthermore, review the progress of the implementation of all other agreements concluded between the two countries, and take steps to ensure their active and speedy implementation.

ARTICLE III

The Commission shall be at the level of Foreign Minister and its composition shall be determined by the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE IV

The Commission shall determine its rules and procedures and may establish working groups to deal with specific subjects brought before it.

ARTICLE V

The Commission shall meet once a year or at the request of either Contracting Party, alternately in the Philippines and in Vietnam. Special sessions of the Commission may be convened at the request of either Party at a time agreed upon by both Parties. The meetings of the Commission may be preceded by a meeting at Senior Officials level.

ARTICLE VI

The present Agreement shall come into force on the date of the last notification by which the Contracting Parties inform each other, through diplomatic channels, that their respective constitutional requirements for giving effect to the present Agreement have been fulfilled.

ARTICLE VII

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and upon the expiry thereof shall automatically remain in force unless either Contracting Party notifies the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate the Agreement at least six months prior to the intended date of termination.

ARTICLE VIII

The termination of the present Agreement shall not affect the validity and duration of any arrangement and/or contract made under the present Agreement until the completion of such arrangement and/or contract.

ARTICLE IX

Either Contracting Party may request in writing a revision or amendment of all or parts of this Agreement. Any revision or amendment which has been agreed to by both Contracting Parties shall come into effect on such date as is determined by both Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE X

Any differences between the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation and/or implementation of the present Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultations or negotiations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE in Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Vietnam this 28th day of March 1994, in four original texts, two each in the English and Vietnamese languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of differing interpretations, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

(Sgd.) ROBERTO R. ROMULO

(Sgd.) NGUYEN MANH CAM

Secretary of Foreign Affairs

Minister of Foreign Affairs

ANNEX

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES-VIETNAM JOINT COMMISSION

OBJECTIVES

1. The objectives of the Commission shall be:

- (i) To promote bilateral relations and cooperation. This is to be achieved through the implementation of agreed projects or measures to be undertaken by the two countries individually or jointly.
- (ii) To coordinate the activities of existing fora between Departments/Ministries of both countries with a view to achieving the broad objectives in (i).
- (iii) To resolve outstanding bilateral problems under its purview.
- (iv) To manage bilateral issues so as to prevent them from developing into problems.

SCOPE

- 2. The Commission shall cover all aspects of bilateral relations, particularly political, economic, trade, social and cultural aspects, except those which will be determined by the two Governments from time to time as necessary.
- 3. The Commission shall coordinate the work of its committees and sub-committees. It shall make recommendations to these bodies as and when necessary so as to facilitate their work.
- 4. The Commission shall be regularly kept informed of the results of the meetings of the committees and sub-committees.

SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING

- 5. The preparations for the Joint Commission Meeting shall be undertaken by the Senior Officials Meeting to be co-chaired by the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam. The Senior Officials Meeting shall also ensure the implementation of all decisions and recommendations of the Commission.

COMPOSITION

- 6. The Commission shall be led by the Secretary/Minister of Foreign Affairs of the two countries and shall comprise relevant Cabinet Ministers and Senior Officials of the concerned Departments/Ministries and Government Agencies as determined by the Contracting Parties.

CHAIRMANSHIP

- 7. Chairmanship of the Joint Commission Meeting shall be jointly assumed by the leaders of the respective delegations.

VENUE

8. The venue of the annual meeting of the Commission shall be held alternately in the Philippines and Vietnam.

AGENDA

9. The provisional agenda for the annual meeting of the Commission shall be proposed by the host country at least one month before the scheduled date of meeting.

RECORDS

10. The host country shall be responsible for the preparation of the agreed records.

CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION

11. All communications shall be channelled through the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam, which shall respectively act as Secretariat of the Commission.

PRESS RELEASE

12. All records of the Commission shall be kept confidential. However, the Commission may issue statements to the press as deemed appropriate.

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.