

AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR

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The Government of the Republic of Philippines and the Government of the State of Qatar, hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties",

Desiring to strengthen the ties of friendship, enhance and develop commercial exchange, economic and technical cooperation Relationships between them on the basis of mutual and common 'rests and benefits,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

In accordance with their respective laws and regulations, the Contracting Parties shall encourage the export and import between their two countries of industrial and agricultural products, including raw materials of indigenous origin and animal wealth. In this regard, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to extend and furnish all possible facilities in support of export and import activities between the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

Whenever possible, the Contracting Parties shall strive to encourage the transport of goods between their respective territories through transportation facilities belonging to each of them.

ARTICLE 3

The payments due for all current transactions concluded between natural and legal persons within the framework of this Agreement shall be effected by any convertible currency to be agreed upon between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party shall undertake to participate in international exhibitions and fairs held in the territory of the other Contracting Party. Subject to their respective laws and regulations, either Contracting Party shall permit one Contracting Party to organize fairs and exhibitions in the other's territory and shall provide him with all the necessary facilities and assistance in the undertaking.

ARTICLE 5

The Contracting Parties shall encourage mutual cooperation and exchange of visits between businessmen and representatives of their Chambers of Commerce.

ARTICLE 6

The economic and technical cooperation envisioned by this Agreement shall include the following: energy, industry, agriculture, animal and fish resources, transport, communication, construction, tourism and other areas which may be agreed upon in the future.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation between their public and private institutions and agencies engaged in technical activities of public interests. The Contracting Parties shall, further undertake the following:

- a) Set up technical and economic joint projects and prepare feasibility studies for these projects. They shall further encourage the exchange of visits between their citizens engaged in different technical disciplines who may provide the required assistance and support for the projects;
- b) Provide opportunities for their citizens to participate in training and- orientation programs related to the technical and economic fields; and
- c) Coordinate efforts in research and related studies in the technical and economic fields.

ARTICLE 8

a) To ensure the implementation of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties agree to establish a Joint Committee on Economic, Commercial and Technical Cooperation which will meet alternately in the two countries.

b) The Joint Committee shall have the following purposes, among others:

- i. Coordinate the different aspects of cooperation between the Contracting Parties in the economic, commercial and technical fields;
- ii. Discuss and formulate new work programs in the economic, commercial and technical fields. The duration of these programs shall be fixed by mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.
- iii. Formulate the necessary proposal to promote and strengthen the economic, commercial and technical relations between the Contracting Parties; and
- iv. Examine any problem which may arise in connection with the implementation of this Agreement and submit solutions to settle them.

ARTICLE 9

All aspects of cooperation stipulated in this Agreement are governed by the laws and regulations applied in both countries.

ARTICLE 10

The Contracting Parties hereby undertake to settle the differences which may arise in relation to the implementation of this Agreement through amicable consultations and negotiations.

ARTICLE 11

This Agreement shall not affect the other Agreements concluded or shall be concluded by either party with another State.

ARTICLE 12

This Agreement or any provision thereof may be amended by mutual consent between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 13

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the notification by the Contracting Parties that they have complied with their respective internal requirements for its entry into force.

ARTICLE 14

This Agreement shall remain valid for a period of five years from the date it enters into force and shall be renewed automatically for similar periods of five years unless either Contracting Party notifies the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, about its intention to terminate it at least six months prior to the intended date of termination. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the continuation of existing projects until the expiration of their agreed duration.

Signed in Doha on 10th March, 1997 A.D., corresponding to 1st Dhul-Qada 1417 A.H., in two original copies each in English and Arabic, both being authentic.

For the Government of the
Republic of Philippines

For the Government of the
State of Qatar

(SGD.) DOMINGO L. SIAZON JR.

(SGD.) MOHAMMED BIN KHALIFA AL-THANI

Secretary of Affairs
Minister of Finance, Economy and Commerce

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