

February 03, 2016

**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 DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA**

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