AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON THE CONDITIONS OF MUTUAL VISITS OF THE HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND SERVICE (OFFICIAL) PASSPORTS

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

guided by the mutual desire to develop friendly relations between the two States,

assuming that the most favorable condition for mutual visits of the nationals of the Republic of the Philippines and the Russian Federation holding valid diplomatic and service (official) passports will contribute to the achievement of this goal,

have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

- 1. Nationals of the State of either Party holding valid diplomatic or service (official) passports shall be entitled to enter, leave, transit through, and continuously stay in the territory of the State of the other Party for up to 90 days without a visa.
- 2. Nationals of the State of one Party referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article may cross the border of the State of the other Party only through its border checkpoints open for international traffic in accordance with the legislation of the State of each Party.

ARTICLE 2

- 1. Nationals of the State of either Party holding valid diplomatic or service (official) passports appointed to a diplomatic mission or a consular office or a mission of their States to an international organization, located in the territory of the State of the other Party, shall be exempted from the requirement of obtaining visas for entry into the territory of the State of the other Party. Upon entry into the territory of the State of the other Party they shall be subject to accreditation within a period of 14 days on request from the relevant diplomatic mission and in accordance with the domestic legislation of the State of the Receiving Party. Such persons shall be issued multiple-entry visas for the period of their accreditation.
- 2. The rules governing entry, exit and stay, specified in this Article shall also apply to spouse of the persons, referred to in this Article, and also the their minor children incapacitated children of lawful age and dependent parents, who reside with them and hold valid diplomatic or service (official) passports or, in case of minor children, are included in the diplomatic or service (official) passport of their father or mother.

ARTICLE 3

1. If nationals of the State of either Party holding valid diplomatic or service (official) passports are engaged in the implementation of bilateral interstate and intergovernmental cooperation projects and under the project terms have to stay in

the territory of the State of the other Party for a period exceeding 90 days, the diplomatic missions or consular offices of the State of the Receiving Party, upon the decision of the competent authorities, shall issue them multiple-entry diplomatic or service (official) visas valid until the completion of the project, but for a period not exceeding 5 years. In that case, nationals of the State of one Party may stay in the territory of the State of the other Party for the duration of such visas.

- 2. In case the duration of the project is extended after the entry of persons mentioned in Paragraph I of this Article to the territory of the State of the other Party the initially issued visas can be extended upon their expiry by the competent authorities of the State of the Receiving Party in the territory of that State by granting multiple-entry visas valid up to 1 year.
- 3. The rules governing entry, exit and stay, specified in this Article shall also apply to spouse of the persons, referred to in this Article, and also their minor children, incapacitated children of lawful age and dependent parents, who reside with them and hold valid diplomatic or service (official) passports or, in case of minor children, are included in the diplomatic or service (official) passport of their father or mother.

ARTICLE 4

Each Party shall reserve the right to refuse entry into the territory of its State or suspend the stay therein of any national of the State of the other Party referred to in Article I of this Agreement whom it may consider persona non grata.

ARTICLE 5

- 1. In case of loss or damage of a diplomatic or service (official) passport in the territory of the State of one Party the national of the State of the other Party holding it shall promptly notify thereof the competent authorities of the State of the Receiving Party through a diplomatic mission or consular office of the State of his/her nationality.
- 2. The diplomatic mission or consular office of the State of nationality of the holder of a lost or damaged diplomatic or service (official) passport shall issue a new diplomatic or service (official) passport or a temporary document proving his/her identity and giving the right to entry (return) to the State of nationality and shall notify thereof the competent authorities of the State of the Receiving Party. One may exit with newly issued document without obtaining a visa or other permission from the competent authorities of the State of the Receiving Party.

ARTICLE 6

Nationals of the State of one Party covered by this Agreement who are unable to leave the territory of the State of the other Party within the authorized period of their stay due to unforeseen reasons (illness, natural disaster, etc.), may be entitled to extend, without charging visa fees, the validity period of their visas or permissions to stay in the territory of the State of the Receiving Party in accordance with its domestic legislation for a period necessary for them to return to the State of their nationality and provided further that the reasons are corroborated with documents.

ARTICLE 7