AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA ON THE EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India

Hereafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties";

CONSIDERING the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly relations, and

DESIRING to facilitate the entry of the citizens of the Republic of the Philippines and the citizens of the Republic of India, who are holders of diplomatic or official passports into their respective countries,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Citizens of the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of India, as well as their spouses, children and dependent parents, holding valid diplomatic and official passports, shall enter into, transit through or stay in the territory of the other country without visas.

ARTICLE 2

Citizens of either Contracting Parties shall be allowed to stay within the territory of the other Contracting Party for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days. This period of stay may be extended at their request subject to the consent of the competent authorities of the receiving Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall exchange, through diplomatic channels, their respective valid passport specimens within thirty (30) days after the entry into force of this Agreement The Contracting Parties shall inform each other about the introduction of new types and classification of passports, as well as change or modification to those currently in use and shall furnish each other relevant specimens at least thirty (30) days prior to their use.

ARTICLE 4

Notwithstanding the exemption from obtaining entry visa under this Agreement, it is the duty of persons benefiting therefrom to comply with the laws and regulations of the receiving Contracting Party regarding entry into, stay in and exit from the receiving Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 5