

**August 12, 2005**

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES-AUSTRALIA MINISTERIAL MEETING**

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

Taking into account their existing arrangements in various fields;

Confirming their interest in strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries;

Have reached the following understandings:

### **PARAGRAPH I**

The Parties will establish the Philippines-Australia Ministerial Meeting (hereinafter called the PAMM) to facilitate consultation and cooperation between the two countries.

### **PARAGRAPH II**

The objectives of the PAMM will be:

- a. To set the direction and vision of the bilateral relationship.
- b. To provide a forum for the exchange of views on significant global and regional developments of interest and concern to both countries.
- c. To provide a forum for the discussion of initiatives, activities and projects designed to further strengthen and expand the bilateral relationship.

### **PARAGRAPH III**

The PAMM will be co-chaired by the Foreign and Trade Ministers of both Parties. The Parties may mutually determine alternative chairing arrangements for the PAMM as appropriate.

2. The Parties may invite other ministers or senior officials to attend the PAMM, depending on the priorities set for each PAMM.

### **PARAGRAPH IV**

The PAMM will consider issues raised at previous PAMMs and review progress made and make recommendations on follow up action as appropriate.

### **PARAGRAPH V**

The PAMM will determine its rules and procedures.

### **PARAGRAPH VI**

The PAMM will meet once every two years alternately in the Philippines and Australia. The PAMM may meet more frequently as mutually determined by the