

May 22, 2002

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
RELATING TO THE JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC AND MARINE
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
(JOMSRE-SCS II)**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM,
HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "CONTRACTING PARTIES",**

CONVINCED that the South China Sea (SCS) is an important area of marine biodiversity and that oceanographic and marine science research plays a critical role in ensuring sustainable development of marine resources in the SCS;

CONVINCED FURTHER that marine scientific research enhances the opportunities for cooperative endeavors as a confidence building measure for the peaceful resolution of the claims in the area;

DESIRING to cooperate in Joint Oceanographic and Marine Scientific Researches in the South China Sea (JOMSRE SCS) as a statement of goodwill and to further enhance the productive and beneficial relations of both countries;

CONCERNED with the sustainability of resources in the SCS;

COGNIZANT of the fact that they will mutually benefit from a collaborative arrangement in oceanographic and marine scientific research;

RECOGNIZING their respective capabilities in conducting oceanographic and marine scientific research in the SCS;

NOTING the Contracting Parties interest to conduct various joint oceanographic and marine researches and exchanges as an expression of their determination to cooperate in marine science;

NOTING FURTHER that the JOMSRE-SCS I successfully demonstrated the mutual benefits and positive developments for their cooperation in the region;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISION**

The Contracting, Parties, consistent with the existing laws, rules and regulations prevailing in their respective jurisdictions, shall undertake to implement the JOMSRE-SCS.II.

**ARTICLE II
OBJECTIVES**

- 1.To foster goodwill between the leaders of the two countries through enhanced cooperation in marine scientific research in the SCS;
- 2.To increase the knowledge about the natural processes of the marine environment and resources of the SCS, particularly the Spratlys area; and
- 3.To consider the knowledge and learnings gained from the JOMSRE-SCS series for the better understanding and wise utilization of resources in the SCS.

ARTICLE III IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT

1. DURATION:

For the pre-cruise preparation:	from the provisional entry into force of this MOU until 23 May 2000
For the scientific cruise proper: (On board the research vessel)	10 to 15 days from 24 May 2000
For the post-cruise activities: (including workshop)	10. months from the end of the scientific cruise proper

2. CRUISE TRACK AND STATIONS:

The cruise track and stations will start in Nha Trang and will end in Manila, as specified on the attached map marked as Annex "A".

Data and samples will be obtained and observations made at 23 three-hour stations and 3 to 4 twenty-four hour stations.

3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. Scientific components:

- 1.Physical Oceanography;
- 2.Chemical oceanography;
- 3.Biological oceanography;
- 4.Geological oceanography; and
- 5.Coral reef ecology.

B. Contributions:

1.Scientific Personnel:

1.1. The Philippines and Vietnam will each have twelve to fifteen scientific personnel for the cruise. The scientific personnel shall have the expertise to undertake the required activities.

1.2. The Philippines and Vietnam shall designate their respective Chief Scientists for JOMSRE-SCS II and a Senior Scientist for each component.