

**October 17, 1997**

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON COOPERATION IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereinafter referred to as "Parties");

Inspired by a common desire to enhance the relations between their countries through cooperation in public health;

Conscious of the vital role of public health in the development of human resources and of the economy; and

Recognizing the benefits their peoples will derive from such cooperation;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**ARTICLE I**

The Parties shall cooperate as far as possible in order to improve or ensure access by the people especially women and children, to adequate public health services, with particular emphasis on the area of primary health care.

**ARTICLE II**

The Parties shall undertake cooperation activities in the prevention, control, diagnosis, and treatment of communicable and non-communicable public health diseases and shall inform each other of the occurrence in epidemic proportions and other important developments regarding these diseases.

**ARTICLE III**

The Parties shall encourage and promote the exchange of experiences, studies and researches in the fields of public health, public health administration, and medical science.

**ARTICLE IV**

1. The Parties will undertake, subject to their respective and existing laws and regulations, cooperation programs aimed at upgrading the medical staff and facilities, including:
2. The sending of doctors, experts, and health professionals at the request of the other party under terms to be stipulated by specific agreements of contracts;
3. The sending of experts and health professionals at the request of the other party for participation in study courses in the public health institute(s) of the said party;
4. The promotion of exchange of doctors, experts, and health professionals for further studies in particular areas;
5. The promotion of exchanges of teaching methodologies and teaching aids; and