AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA CONCERNING DEFENSE COOPERATION

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India (hereinafter jointly referred to as the Parties and separately as a Party):

ACKNOWLEDGING the mutual benefits inherent in defense between the Parties;

RECOGNISING that the implementation of such cooperation shall be in accordance with the policies and priorities of the respective Parties, and in accordance with conditions as mutually determined from time to time between the Parties;

DESIRING to further strengthen the bilateral relations between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

The aim of this Agreement is to enhance defence cooperation through the exchange of experience and knowledge between the Parties.

ARTICLE 2

IMPLEMENTATION

The Parties entrust the implementation of this Agreement to their respective Department / Ministry of Defence.

ARTICLE 3

DEFENCE COOPERATION

In the field of defence cooperation, the Parties may:

- a. exchange military training expertise and information;
- b. exchange military instructors / observers;
- c. exchange military personnel for purposes of attending military and educational courses or programmes;
- d. exchange visits of military aircraft and military naval vessels, including Operational Turn Around facilities thereof;
- e. exchange information that is mutually beneficial; and
- f. collaborate in other spheres of Defence Cooperation for purposes of mutual benefit.

ARTICLE 4

PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Subject to their domestic laws, the Parties shall protect classified information exchanged between them pursuant to this Agreement by not disclosing any classified information other than to members of their own staff who have been cleared in the appropriate level by their respective Governments and to whom such disclosure is essential for the purposes of giving effect to this Agreement or to any other further agreements and only after having taken all reasonable precautions to ensure that such members of staff shall at all times maintain strict secrecy. The Parties shall not use any classified information obtained during any bilateral cooperation between them to the detriment or against the interests of the other Party.

ARTICLE 5

DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

The Parties, in the field of defence technology cooperation, may:

- a. facilitate contact between defense- related agencies in their respective countries;
- b. encourage dialogue sessions between research institutes from their respective countries; and
- c. work on such joint projects, as may be mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE 6

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Parties may cooperate in other defense-related activities not mentioned in Article 3 and 5, including:

- a. reciprocal visits;
- b. attendance in seminars, discussions and symposia; and
- c. considering and undertaking any other activity which in their opinion would promote closer cooperation between the Ministry of Defence of India and the Department of National Defense of the Philippines.

ARTICLE 7

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT

The financial implications in respect of cooperation in terms of this Agreement shall be dealt on case-by-case basis, based on the principles of mutual reciprocation.

ARTICLE 8

DISPUTES

Any disputes between the Parties arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultation and negotiation