

April 10, 2005

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON THE EXEMPTION FROM VISAS FOR HOLDERS OF ORDINARY PASSPORTS**

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

With the objective of strengthening their friendly relations and facilitating the travel of their respective citizens,

Have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE 1**

Citizens of either Party to this Agreement who are holders of ordinary passports valid for at least six (6) months will be exempted from any visa requirements to enter into, transit through, stay in and depart from the territory of the other Party.

**ARTICLE 2**

Citizens of either Party shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Party without a visa for not more than thirty (30) days from the date of entry. In case of casual obstacles or for valid reasons, an extension of stay may be requested from the competent authorities of the other Party.

Citizens of either Party intending to stay in the territory of the other Party for more than thirty (30) days shall be required to obtain entry visas from the Embassy or Consulate of the other Party. Upon their entry into the other Party's country, an extension of stay may be requested from the competent authorities of that Party and with fees for extension of stay in accordance with the laws and regulations of that Party.

**ARTICLE 3**

Citizens of either Party shall abide by the laws and regulations in effect in the other Party's country during their stay therein.

**ARTICLE 4**

Citizens of either Party may enter, depart from and transit through the territory of the other Party through international border cross-points.

**ARTICLE 5**

Either Party shall notify through diplomatic channels any changes to passports and provide specimen of new passports to the other Party at least thirty (30) days prior to its use.

**ARTICLE 6**

Either Party may deny entry or shorten the permitted stay for citizens of the other Party if the competent authorities believe that it is reasonable.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

Either Party may temporarily suspend the implementation of this Agreement either in full or in part for national security, social orderliness and public health reasons.

Any temporary suspension or resumption of this Agreement's implementation shall be mutually notified in writing through diplomatic channels.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

This Agreement may be amended or revised by mutual consent of the Parties through diplomatic channels. Such amendment or revision shall enter into force on the date of the latter written notification by the Parties, through diplomatic channels, indicating that the domestic requirements for its entry into force have been complied with.

Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other Party through diplomatic channels. In such case, the Agreement shall be terminated and no longer in effect three (3) months from the receipt of such written notice.

#### **ARTICLE 9**

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the latter written notification by the Parties, through diplomatic channels, indicating that the domestic requirements for its entry into force have been complied with.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in the City of Cebu, Philippines on this 10th day of April 2005 in two original texts in English, all texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

(Sgd.) **SOMSAVAT LENGSAVAD**  
Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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With the objective of strengthening their friendly relations and facilitating the travel of their respective citizens,