

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON DEFENSE
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA**

PREAMBLE

The Department of National Defense of the Republic of the Philippines and the Ministry of National Defense of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to collectively as the two Parties and separately as the Party);

With a view to materializing the related consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, building on the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two Parties and in line with their common wish to further strengthen and expand their friendly relations and cooperation in the Defense field;

HAVE agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL PRINCIPLE**

The Parties shall strengthen and expand their friendly cooperation in the defense field on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence, as set forth in the United Nations Charter and other universally recognized norms of the international law, so as to jointly safeguard regional and world peace and stability, promote the in-depth and all-round development of the good-neighborly partnership of mutual trust between the two Parties.

**ARTICLE II
DEFENCE COOPERATION**

The two Parties agreed to focus their cooperation in the following areas:

(1) Exchange of military delegations consisting of high or middle level officers on a yearly basis to promote mutual understanding, mutual trust, and develop friendship and cooperation. The two Parties shall notify each other of the annual plan for exchange of visits at the earliest possible date, so as to carry out the exchanges after agreement is reached through consultation. In the spirit of general equality, the visiting party shall bear their own international travel expenses, while in principle the hosting party shall cover the costs of food, accommodation and local transport as far as the official items in the annual plan are concerned. In case of items beyond the annual plan, such as student tours of military academies, the visiting party shall be self-financed in principle, while the hosting party shall provide conveniences for the visitors.

(2) Establishment of a mechanism of Philippines-China Annual Defense Security Talks Subject: International and regional security situation, friendly cooperation