

March 04, 2003

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA ON CO-OPERATION TO COMBAT
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of Australia:

Acknowledging the value of existing co-operation between the Philippines and Australia on defense, intelligence, security and law enforcement matters and desiring to strengthen and expand this co-operation to fight international terrorism;

Reflecting the determination of the international community to prevent, suppress and eliminate international terrorism in all its forms;

Realizing the danger that international terrorist networks pose to the safety of their citizens and the security of the Asia-Pacific region;

Recognizing the importance of highly effective international co-operation at all levels to combating international terrorism;

Noting with concern the emergence of links between international terrorism and transnational organized crime;

Underscoring the total impact of the series of bombings in Indonesia, the Philippines and other possible targets in the Asian region, and its future and collateral consequences in the global economy and security;

Have reached the following understandings;

OBJECTIVE

1. This Memorandum of Understanding provides a framework for co-operation between the Philippines and Australia in preventing and suppressing international terrorism. It reflects the emergence in recent years of international terrorist and organized criminal networks with links into the Asia-Pacific region and the upsurge in terrorist threats and activities.

AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

2. Areas of co-operation under this Memorandum of Understanding will include, others:

(a) information and intelligence assessments; among others:

(b) law enforcement, including the prevention and investigation of terrorist activities;

(c) money laundering and the financing of international terrorism;

(d) the development of appropriate and effective counter-terrorism legal, regulatory and administrative regimes;