

TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties;

DESIRING to develop and strengthen direct trade relations between them in accordance with their development needs and objectives on equitable and mutually beneficial bases;

RECOGNIZING the benefits to be derived by both parties from such trade relations at public or private levels;

Have agreed as follows;

ARTICLE I GENERAL PROVISION

The two Contracting Parties shall do their utmost to encourage, facilitate and increase the volume of trade between their two countries, through all means and forms of trade transactions. Both Contracting Parties agree to promote the exchange of all available goods between them in accordance with their respective legislations.

ARTICLE II MOST-FAVOURED-NATION TREATMENT

The Contracting Parties shall grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment in accordance with provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as far as these are applicable to both contracting parties, in all matters relating to:

- a. Customs duties, charges and internal taxes of any kind including the method of levying such duties, charges and taxes imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation, or imposed on the transfer of payments for imports and exports;
- b. Rules and formalities connected with customs clearance; and
- c. The issuance of import and export licenses.

ARTICLE III EXEMPTIONS FROM MFN

The provisions of Article II shall not apply to:

- a. Special preferences or other advantages accorded by either Party resulting from its association in a regional or sub-regional arrangement, customs union, a free trade area or a common market, or measures leading to the formation of a customs union, a free trade area or a common market;
- b. Tariff preferences or other advantages which either Party grants or may grant to facilitate frontier/border traffic;

c. Special tariff preferences or other advantages which either Party may grant to developing countries under any trade expansion or economic cooperation scheme of which the other Party is not a member; and

d. Advantages, facilities and preferences granted or to be granted in accordance with bilateral or regional agreements concluded or to be concluded between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Arab, African and Islamic countries.

ARTICLE IV SAFEGUARD MEASURES

No provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted in such a manner as to prevent the adoption or enforcement by other Contracting Party of the following measures:

a. measures necessary to safeguard its balance of payment position;

b. measures necessary to protect public health, morals, order or security;

c. measures necessary to prevent injury to domestic industries or the threat thereof;

d. measures necessary to protect human, animal or plant life against diseases, pollution, or threat to life;

e. measures relating to traffic in arms, ammunitions, implements of war, or traffic in other materials carried on directly or indirectly for the purpose of supplying a military establishment; and

f. measures relating to fissionable nuclear materials, the sources thereof, or the radioactive by-products thereof except as may be required for medical purposes.

ARTICLE V PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

All payments arising from trade between the two countries shall be made in freely convertible currencies, subject to foreign exchange regulations and other pertinent laws, rules, and regulations effective in the respective countries.

Payments between the two countries may also be effected through other payment arrangements subject to the laws and regulations in force in both countries.

ARTICLE VI EXCHANGE OF COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVE/ PARTICIPATION IN TRADE FAIRS

In order to develop further trade between the two countries, the Contracting Parties shall encourage and facilitate the visit of commercial representatives, groups and delegations of either Party and the participation of either country in trade fairs and missions and in arranging trade exhibitions of either country in the territory of the other on terms to be agreed between their competent authorities.

The exemptions from customs duties and other similar charges on articles and items intended for trade fairs, missions and exhibitions shall be subject to the laws and regulations of the country where such fairs and exhibitions are held.