

February 17, 1998

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR ON A PACKAGE OF
ASSISTANCE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE
UNION OF MYANMAR**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Union of Myanmar, (hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties")

DESIROUS of expanding, enhancing, and strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation on a lasting and long-term basis;

CONVINCED of the necessity of lasting and effective cooperation in the interests of both countries;

GUIDED by ASEAN's vision for its rich human and natural resources to contribute in achieving socio-economic development and shared prosperity in the Southeast Asian region based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and full respect of sovereignty;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

**ARTICLE I
GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines shall offer a package of assistance on human resources development (HRD) to the Government of the Union of Myanmar based on Annex A (Project Proposal) which forms part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**ARTICLE II
COORDINATING AGENCIES**

The lead coordinating and implementing agency for the Government of the Republic of the Philippines shall be the National Economic and Development Authority. The Ministry for National Planning and Economic Development shall be the lead coordinating and implementing agency for the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

The two coordinating agencies shall be responsible for the planning and coordination of the Programs under this Memorandum of Understanding. Their functions shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) establishing priorities for the various Programs;
- (b) selecting activities for implementation;
- (c) reviewing and reporting on the progress of the various Programs to the two Governments; and
- (d) recommending to the two Governments any appropriate changes to the Program, including budget and future development.

ARTICLE III
AREAS OF COLLABORATION

The HRD Package of Assistance shall consist of scholarship slots offered to the citizens of Myanmar on the following areas: construction management, economics, statistics, project development, monitoring and evaluation.

ARTICLE IV
BASIC COMMITMENTS

The Contracting Parties shall have the responsibilities of working together for the successful implementation of the HRD Package of Assistance and of coordinating and making representations with high-level officials for the possible extension of the same HRD package of assistance to other prospective members of the ASEAN, such as Laos and Cambodia.

ARTICLE V
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines shall have the following responsibilities:

1. package an HRD assistance program to offer scholarship slots to selected and qualified citizens of the Union of Myanmar. This HRD Package of Assistance shall cover the primary and incidental expenses associated with the scholarship, such as: airfare, tuition fee, monthly/weekly stipend, lodging, book allowance, thesis allowance, field trip allowance, health insurance, and administrative costs for the smooth implementation of the program;
2. coordinate with selected educational and training institutions within the country to participate in the HRD Program. These institutions shall have established themselves in their respective areas of competence;
3. offer scholarship programs in the following areas: construction management, economics, statistics, project development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. These areas may, however, be expanded to include other areas which may be mutually agreed upon by both governments;
4. responsible for the smooth implementation of the HRD Package of Assistance, after such package shall have been deemed acceptable by the Government of the Union of Myanmar;
5. coordinate with the cooperating institutions on the type of education and training assistance to be provided as well as in student placement and other incidental services needed to ensure completion by the students of their program on time;
6. provide assistance, in coordination with pertinent bodies, that will enable students to enrich their academic and social life in a way that will strengthen Philippine-Myanmar cultural relations;
7. facilitate the entry and departure of Myanmar scholars through coordination with appropriate organizations (immigration authorities, embassy, travel agencies, and the like);