

December 18, 1997

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL
COOPERATION**

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

Desirous of expanding and enhancing bilateral relations between the two countries through economic and technical cooperation;

Recognizing the advantages to be derived by their respective peoples from such cooperation; and

Cognizant of the need to undertake all measures to encourage and develop economic and technical cooperation between the two countries;

Have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE I
AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The Parties shall, within their respective capabilities, effect economic and technical cooperation in areas of economic development, within the framework of the present Agreement and in conformity with their respective laws and regulations, which will be mutually beneficial to both countries.

In order to achieve the objectives laid down in this Agreement, the Parties shall promote:

- (a) the study, preparation and implementation of economic and technical projects of mutual interest;
- (b) cooperation relative to the financial and technical aspects of selected projects;
- (c) the provision of services in their territories which would contribute toward the improvement of the standards of living and the prosperity of their countries; and
- (d) any other form of cooperation as may be deemed appropriate.

**ARTICLE II
IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT**

The economic and technical cooperation shall be conducted in accordance with the capabilities and requirements of the respective Parties as well as with the terms and conditions to be agreed upon by the Parties. The detailed provisions relating to the forms and methods as well as to the conditions of such cooperation in the agreed areas, including intellectual property rights, shall be laid down in separate implementing arrangements.

**ARTICLE III
PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**