

JOINT PHILIPPINE-RUSSIAN DECLARATION

Recognizing the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the Philippines and the Russian Federation;

Conscious of the deep and positive changes in the state of national and international affairs and the need to adapt to a new multi-polar world;

Deeply convinced that the strengthening of friendly and equal relations between their two countries would contribute to international peace, security and stability and an atmosphere of understanding, trust and mutually beneficial cooperation among all countries;

Guided by the universally accepted principles of sovereignty, equality and independence of States, as embodied in the UN Charter;

Recognizing their mutual desire to improve bilateral relations;

The Republic of the Philippines and the Russian Federation agree to:

(1) Undertake necessary steps to strengthen and improve bilateral relations and to bring them in line with new political, economic and social realities in both countries and in the international arena;

(2) Broaden and deepen their regular dialogue at various levels and through various channels on major issues of their bilateral relations and on international problems, and create to this end, as necessary, appropriate mechanisms;

(3) Promote contacts and interaction between their executive branches, including holding regular political consultations between their Ministries of Foreign Affairs on the basis of the Protocol of March 24, 1988;

(4) Intensify inter-parliamentary relations as well as exchange between public organizations, and promote diversified contacts at the local level, twinning relations between regions, direct contacts between enterprises and organizations as well as contacts among people;

(5) Facilitate, in every possible way, the development of their trade, economic, scientific and technical relations by creating for this purpose favourable legal, institutional, financial and economic conditions, negotiating agreements and adopting effective measures to promote business and other economic activities including the promotion and protection of investments in accordance with national legislation, obligations under the UN Charter and rules of international law and justice;

(6) Develop cooperation in the fields of education, culture, literature, fine arts, mass media, health, social security, law, environment protection, tourism, physical fitness and sports and in other areas;

(7) Work towards a just and stable international order, where relations of all countries are conducted on the basis of mutual respect and equality through