

IN THE NAME OF GOD THE COMPASSIONATE, THE MERCIFUL

**AGREEMENT ON MARITIME MERCHANT SHIPPING BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereinafter referred to as Contracting Parties;

Desirous of strengthening the friendly relations between the Contracting Parties and promoting cooperation to improve efficiency in the field of merchant shipping in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

For the purpose of this Agreement:

(a) The term "vessel of either Contracting Party" means merchant vessels flying the national flag of, and registered in either Contracting Party, excluding:

1. War ships;
2. Other vessels, performing services in the armed forces;
3. Research vessels (hydrographic, oceanographic and scientific);
4. Vessels which perform functions of non-commercial character (government yachts, hospital ships, etc.)

(b) The term "Crew members" means those who are working on board a vessel of either Contracting Party and hold identity documents issued by the competent authority of the Contracting Party as provided in Article 7 of this agreement and whose names are included in the crew list of the vessel;

(c) The term "Passengers" means those persons carried in the vessel of either Contracting Party who are not employed or engaged in any capacity on board that vessel and whose names are included in the passenger list of the vessel;

(d) The term "Cabotage" includes any transport of goods between any two ports of either Contracting Party;

(e) The term "Competent Authority" means;

1. In the Islamic Republic of Iran - Port and Shipping Organization of the Ministry of Roads and Transportation.

2. In the Republic of the Philippines - the Maritime Industry Authority, Department of Transportation and Communications.

(f) The term "territory" means

In respect of the Republic of the Philippines, the Philippine archipelago, with all the islands and waters embraced therein, and all other territories over which the Philippines has sovereignty or jurisdiction, consisting of its terrestrial, fluvial and aerial domains, including its territorial sea, the seabed, the subsoil, the insular shelves, and other submarine areas. The waters around, between, connecting the islands of the archipelago regardless of their breadth and dimensions, form part of the internal waters of the Philippines.

In respect of the Islamic Republic of Iran as defined in its law of the sea and adjacent area over which the Islamic Republic of Iran has sovereign rights or jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 2

Vessels of either Contracting Party shall sail between certain ports of the Contracting Parties which are open to foreign countries and engage in passenger and cargo services hereinafter called the "agreed services" between the two countries.

ARTICLE 3

Each Contracting Party shall refrain, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, from any discriminatory measures against the vessels of the other Contracting Party in respect of the agreed services between the two countries.

ARTICLE 4

Each Contracting Party shall grant to vessels of the other Contracting Party the most-favored-nation treatment at its ports open to foreign countries with due respect to the laws and regulations applied in each Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 5

The provisions of the present Agreement shall not apply to cabotage. Vessels of either Contracting Party sailing to ports of third countries for transporting cargo or passengers shall not be regarded as cabotage.

ARTICLE 6

The Contracting Parties shall mutually recognize the valid certificates issued in accordance with international conventions and other ship documents duly issued by the competent authority of the Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall recognize the identity documents of the Crew Members of the other Contracting Party, issued and recognized by