

AMENDED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
AND  
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND IMMIGRATION OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

To further enhance their cordial relations and promote the essence of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 1994, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (the "First Party") and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (the "Second Party"), hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties", agree to amend said MOU and re-affirm its purposes, objectives and rules, to wit:

**ARTICLE 1**

The Parties shall work collectively to promote and strengthen areas of cooperation in the fields of labor, employment, and human resource development.

**ARTICLE 2**

Both Parties agree to regularly communicate, evaluate, and exchange information on labor matters for the purpose of improving employment relations and labor administration.

**ARTICLE 3**

The First Party agrees to allow the hiring of Filipino nationals in its territory, pursuant to the laws and regulations of both Parties. The Second Party expresses its desire to assist the First Party in its economic development by helping provide its manpower needs.

**ARTICLE 4**

The First Party shall enforce observance of the terms and conditions of the employment contracts of Filipino workers within its territory. The Second Party, through the Department of Labor and Employment (hereinafter referred to as "DOLE"), shall ensure the deployment of qualified Filipino workers.

**ARTICLE 5**

DOLE, in promoting the protection and welfare of Filipino overseas contract workers, shall establish a Filipino Workers Resource Center attached to the Philippine Consulate in the CNMI.

**ARTICLE 6**

After the entry into force of this amended MOU by both Parties, no Filipino worker shall be employed in the CNMI without having been processed by the Second Party.

## ARTICLE 7

Both Parties shall form a Joint Consultative Committee composed of three (3) representatives from each side to review this MOU annually or as necessary at alternate venues, to promulgate its implementing guidelines, discuss issues and concerns and provide recommendations on the necessary improvements in the MOU for their mutual benefit.

## ARTICLE 8

This MOU shall enter into force on the date of the latter written notification by the Parties, through official channels. Pending the formal entry into force of this MOU, the Parties agree to accord provisional effectivity thereto.

This MOU shall remain in force for a period of one (1) year. It shall be automatically renewed from year to year unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party in writing of its intention to terminate or renegotiate the MOU. The termination shall be effective thirty (30) days after the date of notification.

## ARTICLE 9

Either Party may request in writing, through the Philippine Consulate, a revision or amendment of this MOU. Any revision or amendment agreed to by both Parties shall form part of this MOU. Such revision or amendment shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions on entry into force.

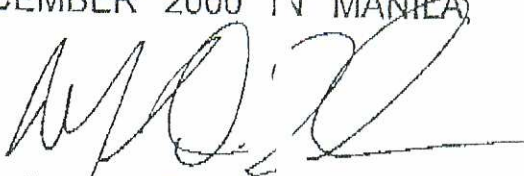
## ARTICLE 10

This MOU hereby amends the Memorandum of Understanding on Labor between the Republic of the Philippines and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands signed in 1994 in Manila.


SIGNED THIS 18th DAY OF DECEMBER 2000 IN MANILA, PHILIPPINES.

  
BIENVENIDO E. LAGUESMA  
Secretary


Department of Labor and Employment  
Republic of the Philippines

  
MARK D. ZACHARIAS  
Secretary

Department of Labor and Immigration  
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

  
FELICISIMO O. JOSEN, JR.  
Undersecretary, DOLE  
Republic of the Philippines

WITNESSES:

  
PEDRO P. TENORIC  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands