JOINT DECLARATION

On the occasion of the First Cambodia-Philippines Roundtable Meeting on Migration Issues held on 03 May 2016 in Phnom Penh, the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, as signatories to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families adopted by the General Assembly resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990 and the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, signed in Cebu on 13 January 2007, have agreed on the following principles to further strengthen their cooperation in the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants and migrant workers:

- 1. Migrants and migrant workers play an important role in the economic growth and development of both countries of origin and countries of destination. This role could be further enhanced by ensuring that their rights are recognized and protected by legally-binding international and regional instruments and declarations.
- 2. Both sides recognize that diplomatic and consular missions are important instrumentalities of the governments to extend support and protection to migrants and migrant workers who are nationals of either country temporarily or permanently residing within their respective diplomatic and consular jurisdictions.
- 3. As countries of origin, both sides shall promote mutual support and cooperation between their respective diplomatic and consular missions abroad and between the line Ministries in charge of migrants and migrant workers of the two countries and provide protection to their migrants and migrant workers temporarily or permanently residing abroad, including through capacity-building cooperation, regular consultation and exchange of views and best practices in addressing challenges encountered in relation to protection and promotion of migrants and migrant workers' rights and welfare.
- 4. Both sides shall promote mutual support and cooperation between their respective diplomatic and consular missions in a third country, particularly by assisting the other Government in providing protection to its migrants and migrant workers in that country based on the capacities and resources of the diplomatic and consular missions. For this purpose, their diplomatic and consular missions in a third country, where there is a substantial number of their migrants and migrant workers, will meet for exchange of information and coordination.

- 5. Both sides reaffirm that the provision of mutual consular assistance shall be rendered to both documented and undocumented migrants or migrant workers in an equal manner and with respect to their fundamental rights and dignity. They further emphasize that protection and consideration shall be granted to women and children, especially those who are victims of human trafficking or people smuggling.
- 6. Nothing in this Joint Declaration shall prevent one side to seek the assistance and support of a third state for the protection and promotion of the rights of their migrants and migrant workers.

Adopted this third day of May 2016 in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia.

For the Royal Government of Cambodia

For the Government of the Republic of the Philippines

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