

**CONVENTION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC FOR
THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH
RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME**

The Republic of the Philippines and the Czech Republic,

desiring to conclude a Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income,

have agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE 1
PERSONS COVERED**

This Convention shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

**ARTICLE 2
TAXES COVERED**

1. This Convention shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.
2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property and taxes on the total amounts of wages or salaries paid by enterprises.
3. The existing taxes to which the Convention shall apply are in particular:
 - a) in the Philippines:

the income taxes imposed by the Republic of the Philippines; (hereinafter referred to as "Philippine tax");
 - b) in the Czech Republic:
 - (i) the tax on income of individuals;
 - (ii) the tax on income of legal persons; (hereinafter referred to as "Czech tax").
4. The Convention shall also apply to any identical or substantially similar taxes which are imposed after the date of signature of this Convention in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of substantial changes which have been made in their respective taxation laws.

ARTICLE 3
GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Convention, unless the context otherwise requires:

a) (i) the term "Philippines" means the territory of the Republic of the Philippines as defined in Article I of the Philippine Constitution and as provided for by existing laws;

(ii) the term "the Czech Republic" means the territory of the Czech Republic over which, under Czech legislation and in accordance with international law, the sovereign rights of the Czech Republic are exercised;

b) the terms "a Contracting State" and "the other Contracting State" mean the Philippines or the Czech Republic, as the context requires;

c) the term "person" includes an individual, an estate, a trust, a company and any other body of persons;

d) the term "company" means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes;

e) the terms "enterprise of a Contracting State" and "enterprise of the other Contracting State" mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State;

f) the term "international traffic" means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State;

g) the term "national" means:

(i) any individual possessing the nationality of a Contracting State;

(ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in a Contracting State;

h) the term "competent authority" means:

(i) in the case of the Philippines, the Secretary of Finance or the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or their authorized representative.

(ii) in the case of the Czech Republic, the Minister of Finance or his authorized representative;

2. As regards the application of the Convention at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the law of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Convention applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

ARTICLE 4

RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "resident of a Contracting State" means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision or local authority thereof. But this term does not include any person who is liable to tax in that State in respect only of income from sources in that State.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then his status shall be determined as follows:

a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests);

b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode;

c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national:

d) if he is a national of both States or of neither of them, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated.

ARTICLE 5

PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "permanent establishment" means a fixed place of business through which the business of the enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.

2. The term "permanent establishment" includes especially:

a) a place of management;

b) a branch;

c) an office;

d) a factory;

e) a workshop;

f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction or exploration of natural resources;

g) a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project or supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only where such site, project or activity continues for a period of more than six months;

h) the furnishing of services, including consultancy or managerial services, by an enterprise of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only where activities of that nature continue in the territory of the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than six months within any twelve month period.

3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term "permanent establishment" shall be deemed not to include:

a) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise;

b) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery;

c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise;

d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise;

e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of advertising, for the supply of information, for scientific research or for similar activities which have a preparatory or auxiliary character, for the enterprise;

f) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs (a) to (e), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, where a person, other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 5 applies, is acting on behalf of an enterprise and has, and habitually exercises, in a Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that State in respect of any activities which that person undertakes for the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to the purchase of goods or merchandise for the enterprise.

5. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other State through a broker, a general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business.

6. The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

ARTICLE 6

INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to

variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources; ships and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting, or use in any other form of immovable property.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

ARTICLE 7

BUSINESS PROFITS

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

3. In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions expenses which are incurred for the purposes of the permanent establishment, including executive and general administrative expenses so incurred, whether in the State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4. Insofar as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits to be taxed by such an apportionment as may be customary; the method of apportionment adopted shall, however, be such that the result shall be in accordance with the principles contained in this Article.

5. No profits shall be attributed to a permanent establishment by reason of the mere purchase by that permanent establishment of goods or merchandise for the enterprise.

6. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.

7. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Convention, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 8

SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1. Profits derived by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in a Contracting State from the operation in international traffic of ships or aircraft shall be taxable only in that State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, profits from sources within a Contracting State derived by an enterprise which has its place of effective management in the other Contracting State from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic may also be taxed in the first-mentioned State but the tax so charged shall not exceed the lesser of:

a) one and one-half per cent of the gross revenues derived from sources in that State; and

b) the lowest rate that may be imposed on profits of the same kind derived under similar circumstances by a resident of a third State.

3. If the place of effective management of a shipping enterprise is aboard a ship, then it shall be deemed to be situated in the Contracting State in which the home harbour of the ship is situated, or, if there is no such home harbour, in the Contracting State of which the operator of the ship is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to profits derived from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

ARTICLE 9

ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES

Where

a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participates directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or

b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of a Contracting State and an enterprise of the other Contracting State, and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but, by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

ARTICLE 10

DIVIDENDS

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:

a) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company which holds directly at least 10 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends;

b) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of these limitations.

This paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

3. The term "dividends" as used in this Article means income from shares, or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights and other income which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the taxation laws of the State of which the paying company is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of

which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 (Business Profits) or Article 14 (Independent Personal Services), as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company's undistributed profits to a tax on the company's undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

6. Nothing in this Article shall prevent either Contracting State from imposing, apart from the corporate income tax, a tax on remittance of profits by a branch to its head office provided that the tax so imposed shall not exceed 10 per cent of the amount remitted.

ARTICLE 11

INTEREST

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2, interest shall be exempted from tax in the Contracting State in which it arises if it is derived and beneficially owned by:

a) the Government of the other Contracting State, including any political subdivision or local authority thereof, the Central Bank or any financial institution wholly owned by that Government; or

b) a resident of the other Contracting State in connection with the loan or credit guaranteed by the Government of that other State.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of the limitations mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3.

4. The term "interest" as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor's profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prizes attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purposes of this Article. The term "interest" shall not include any item of income which is considered as a dividend under the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 10.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 (Business Profits) or Article 14 (Independent Personal Services), as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

ARTICLE 12

ROYALTIES

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed:

a) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties arising from the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work, other than that mentioned in sub-paragraph (b), any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or from the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience;

b) 15 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties arising from the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of cinematograph films, and films or tapes for television or radio broadcasting.

The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall by mutual agreement settle the mode of application of these limitations.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 (Business Profits) or Article 14 (Independent Personal Services), as the case may be, shall apply.

4. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the obligation to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

5. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties, having regard to the use, right or information for which they are paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the

last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Convention.

ARTICLE 13

GAINS FROM THE ALIENATION OF PROPERTY

1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property referred to in Article 6 (Income from Immovable Property) and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.
2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal services, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.
3. Gains from the alienation of property forming part of the business property of an enterprise and consisting of ships or aircraft operated by such enterprise in international traffic or of movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.
4. Gains from the alienation of shares of the capital stock of a company the property of which consists directly or indirectly principally of immovable property situated in a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.
5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.
6. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 to 5, the taxation of the gains from the alienation of an interest in a partnership or a trust is governed by the provisions of the domestic laws of each Contracting State.

ARTICLE 14

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State. However, such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State if:

a) he has a fixed base regularly available to him in that other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other State; or

b) he is present in that other State for a period or periods exceeding in the aggregate 120 days within any twelve month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned; in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term "professional services" includes especially independent scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities, as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

ARTICLE 15

DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16 (Directors' Fees), 18 (Pensions and Social Security Benefits) and 19 (Government Service), salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if all the following conditions are met:

a) the recipient is employed in the other State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any twelve month period commencing or ending in the fiscal year concerned, and

b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of the other State, and

c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in the other State.

3. In the computation of the periods mentioned in paragraph 2(a), the following days shall be included:

(a) all days of physical presence including days of arrivals and departures, and

(b) days spent outside the State of activity such as Saturdays and Sundays, national holidays, holidays, and business trips directly connected with the employment of the recipient in that State, after which the activity was resumed on the territory of that State.

4. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State, may be taxed in the Contracting State in which the place of effective management of the enterprise is situated.

ARTICLE 16

DIRECTORS' FEES

Directors' fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors or any other similar organ of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

ARTICLE 17

ARTISTES AND SPORTSMEN

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 14 (Independent Personal Services) and 15 (Dependent Personal Services), income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as a theater, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsman, from his personal activities as such exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an entertainer or a sportsman in his capacity as such accrues not to the entertainer or sportsman himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 7 (Business Profits), 14 (Independent Personal Services) and 15 (Dependent Personal Services), be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the entertainer or sportsman are exercised.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to income from activities performed in a Contracting State by an entertainer or a sportsman under a cultural or sports exchange program agreed to by both Contracting States and if the visit to that State is wholly supported by public funds of the other Contracting State or of political subdivision or local authority thereof. In such case, the income shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the entertainer or sportsman is a resident.

ARTICLE 18

PENSIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19 (Government Service), pensions and other similar remuneration paid to a resident of a Contracting State in consideration of past employment shall be taxable only in that State.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article and of paragraph 2 of Article 19 (Government Service), benefits received by an individual, being a resident of a Contracting State, under the State pension plan as a part of the social security legislation of the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in that other State.

ARTICLE 19

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1. a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, other than a pension, paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or a political subdivision or a local authority shall be taxable only in that State.
b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that State and the recipient is a resident of that State who:
 - (i) is a national of that State; or
 - (ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering the services.
2. a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by, a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or a political subdivision or a local authority shall be taxable only in that State.
b) However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the recipient is a resident of, and a national of, that State.
3. The provisions of Articles 15 (Dependent Personal Services), 16 (Directors' Fees) and 18 (Pensions and Social Security Benefits) shall apply to salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, and to pensions, in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision or a local authority thereof.

ARTICLE 20
STUDENTS AND APPRENTICES

Payments which a student or business apprentice who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned State solely for the purpose of his education or training receives for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State.

ARTICLE 21
OTHER INCOME

Items of income which are not dealt with in the foregoing Articles and arising in a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

ARTICLE 22
ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

1. In the case of a resident of the Philippines, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

Subject to the laws of the Philippines and the limitations thereof regarding the allowance of a credit against the Philippine tax of tax paid in any country other than the Philippines, the Czech tax paid in respect of income derived from the Czech Republic shall be allowed as credit against the Philippine tax payable in respect of that income.

2. In the case of a resident of the Czech Republic, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

a) The Czech Republic, when imposing taxes on its residents, may include in the tax base upon which such taxes are imposed the items of income which according to the provisions of this Convention may also be taxed in the Philippines, but shall allow as a deduction from the amount of tax computed on such a base an amount equal to the tax paid in the Philippines. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Czech tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriate to the income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in the Philippines.

b) Where in accordance with any provision of the Convention income derived by a resident of the Czech Republic is exempt from tax in the Czech Republic, the Czech Republic may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

ARTICLE 23
NON-DISCRIMINATION

1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith, which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected. This provision shall, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 1 (Persons Covered), also apply to persons who are not residents of one or both of the Contracting States.

2. The taxation on a permanent establishment or on a fixed base which a resident of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on residents of that other State carrying on the same activities.

3. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for taxation purposes on account of civil status or family responsibilities which it grants to its own residents.

4. Except where the provisions of Article 9 (Associated Enterprises), paragraph 7 of Article II (Interest), or paragraph 5 of Article 12 (Royalties), apply, interest, royalties, and other disbursements paid by an enterprise of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State shall, for the purpose of determining the taxable profits of such enterprise, be deductible under the same conditions as if they had been paid to a resident of the first-mentioned State.

5. Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.

ARTICLE 24

MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic laws of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 23 (Non-Discrimination), to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action which gives rise to taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

2. The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Convention. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the domestic law of the Contracting States.

3. A Contracting State shall not, after three years from the end of the taxable period in which the income concerned has accrued, increase the tax base of a resident of either of the Contracting States by including therein items of income which have also been charged to tax in the other Contracting State. This paragraph shall not apply in the case of fraud, willful default or neglect.

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Convention. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in this Convention.

5. The competent authorities of the Contracting States may communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraphs.

ARTICLE 25

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Convention or of the domestic laws of the Contracting States concerning taxes covered by the Convention insofar as the taxation thereunder is in accordance with this Convention, in particular for the prevention of fraud or evasion of such taxes. The exchange of information is not restricted by Article 1 (Persons Covered). Any information received by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) involved in the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of, or the determination of appeals in relation to, the taxes covered by the Convention. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

2. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation:

- a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State;
- b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State;
- c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information, the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy.

ARTICLE 26

MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR POSTS

Nothing in this Convention shall affect the fiscal privileges of members of diplomatic missions or consular posts under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

ARTICLE 27

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. Each of the Contracting States shall notify the other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of the procedures required by its law for the entry into force of this Convention.
2. This Convention shall enter into force on the day of the later of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect:
 - a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on income paid or credited to non-residents on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force;
 - b) in respect of other taxes, on income in any taxable year beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force.

ARTICLE 28

TERMINATION

This Convention shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Convention, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year following after the period of five years from the date on which the Convention enters into force. In such event, the Convention shall cease to have effect:

- a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on income paid or credited to non-residents on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the notice is given;

b) in respect of other taxes, on income in any taxable year beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that, in which the notice is given

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Convention.

DONE in duplicate at Manila this 13th day of November of the year 2000 in the English language.

(Sgd.)	(Sgd.)
FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC

PROTOCOL

At the moment of signing the Convention between the Republic of the Philippines and the Czech Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, the undersigned have agreed upon the following provisions which shall form an integral part of the Convention

1. The provisions of this Convention shall not apply to income derived by companies or other persons enjoying a special tax treatment by virtue of the laws or administrative practice of either of the Contracting States as long as the rates of tax applicable to these companies or persons do not exceed the limitations provided for in the Convention.
2. Benefits provided under this Convention shall not be granted also to companies of either Contracting State if the purpose of the establishment of such companies was solely to obtain benefits under this Convention that would not otherwise be available.
3. The provisions of this Convention shall in no case prevent either Contracting State from the application of the provisions of its domestic laws aiming at the prevention of fiscal evasion, in particular, but is not limited to, the provisions on thin capitalisation, transfer pricing, and substance over form.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, have signed this Protocol.

DONE in duplicate at Manila this 13th day of November of the year 2000 in the English language.

(Sgd.)	(Sgd.)
FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

KNOW YE, that whereas, the Convention Between the Republic of the Philippines and the Czech Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion With Respect to Taxes on Income and Its Protocol was signed in Manila on 13 November 2000;

WHEREAS, the Convention, consisting of twenty-eight (28) articles, aims to eliminate double taxation which is imposed on the income of nationals and/or residents of one or both of the Contracting Parties;

WHEREAS, the Convention provides that it shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State, its political subdivisions or of its local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied. The taxes included are, with respect to the Philippines, income taxes imposed by the Republic of the Philippines; with respect to the Czech Republic, to tax on income of individuals and legal persons;

WHEREAS, under the Convention, double taxation is eliminated. In the case of residents of the Philippines, tax paid in respect of income derived from the Czech Republic shall be allowed as credit against the Philippine tax payable in respect of that income. In the case of residents of the Czech Republic, double taxation shall be eliminated as follows:

a) The Czech Republic, when imposing taxes on its residents, may include in the tax base upon which such taxes are imposed the items which according to the provisions of this Convention may also be taxed in the Philippines, but shall allow as a deduction from the amount of tax computed on such a base an amount equal to the tax paid in the Philippines. Such deduction shall not, however, exceed that part of the Czech tax, as computed before the deduction is given, which is appropriate to the income which, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, may be taxed in the Philippines.

b) Where in accordance with any provision of the Convention income derived by a resident of the Czech Republic is exempt from tax in the Czech Republic, the Czech Republic may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

WHEREAS, the Convention also eliminates discrimination by providing that nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other residence, are or may be subjected;

WHEREAS, the Protocol, on the other hand, provides that: (1) the Convention shall not apply to income derived by companies or other persons enjoying a special tax treatment by virtue of the laws or

administrative practice of either of the Contracting States as long as the rates of tax applicable to these companies or persons do not exceed the limitations provided for in the Convention; (2) benefits provided under the Convention shall not be granted to companies of either Contracting State if the purpose of the establishment of such companies was solely to obtain benefits under the Convention that would not otherwise be available; and (3) the Convention shall in no case prevent either Contracting State from the application of the provisions of its domestic laws aiming at the prevention of fiscal evasion, in particular, but not limited to, the provisions on thin capitalization, transfer pricing, and substance over form;

WHEREAS, Paragraph 1, Article 27 of the Convention provides that each of the Contracting State shall notify the other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of the procedures required by its law for the entry into force of this Convention. Paragraph 2 of the Convention further provides that it shall enter into force on the day of the later of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1 and its provisions shall have effect: a) in respect of taxes withheld at source, on income paid or credited to non-residents on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force; b) in respect of other taxes, on income in any taxable year beginning on or after the first day of January in the calendar year next following that in which the Convention enters into force.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it known that I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, after having seen and considered the aforementioned Convention Between the Republic of the Philippines and the Czech Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion With Respect to Taxes on income and its Protocol, do hereby ratify and confirm the same and each and every Article and Clause thereof.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

GIVEN under my hand at the City of Manila, this 20th day of January, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and three.

BY THE PRESIDENT:

(Sgd.) BLAS F. OPLE
Secretary of Foreign Affairs