

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

**On the Occasion of the State Visit to the Republic of the Philippines
of H. E. Alberto Fujimori, President of the Republic of Peru
14 - 17 November 1996**

1. Upon the invitation of His Excellency Fidel V. Ramos, President of the Republic of the Philippines, His Excellency Alberto Fujimori, President of the Republic of Peru, paid a State Visit to the Philippines from the 14th to the 17th of November 1996. President Fujimori was accompanied by the Minister of Education, Engr. Domingo Palermo; the Vice Minister and Secretary General of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Jorge Voto-Bernales; the Vice Minister of Infrastructure, Ministry of the Presidency, Engr. Carlos Tsuboyama; the Ambassador of Peru to the Philippines, Hon. Victor Aritomi; and three (3) others as members of the official delegation; representatives from the Peruvian business sector, and representatives from the Peruvian official and private media.

2. President Alberto Fujimori and his delegation were received at Ninoy Aquino International Airport by His Excellency Vice President Joseph Estrada and members of the Cabinet upon arrival. A ceremonial welcome took place at the Malacañang Palace on 15 November 1996.

3. During his stay in the Philippines, President Fujimori called on and discussed with President Ramos bilateral and international issues of mutual interest in an atmosphere of cordiality, mutual understanding and cooperation. Both leaders noted with satisfaction the outstanding development of their respective national economics and their efforts to improve the socio-economic development of the Philippines and Peru.

4. In recognition of the close friendship between the Philippines and Peru and the esteem and respect held by the leaders of the two countries for each other, President Ramos conferred on President Fujimori the Order of Sikatuna (Special Class Raja), and President Fujimori conferred on President Ramos the Order El Sol Del Peru Grand Cross with Diamonds.

5. The President of the Senate of the Philippines, Honorable Ernesto Maceda, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Honorable Jose De Venecia, paid courtesy calls on President Fujimori. During the courtesy calls, they explored the possibilities of cooperation between the two legislatures. In this regard, they welcomed the recent creation of the Peru-Philippines Parliamentarians League.

6. President Fujimori paid homage to the national hero of the Philippines, Dr. Jose P. Rizal, by laying a wreath at the Rizal Monument.

7. President Fujimori and his delegation visited the ICTSI International Container Port at the Manila-North Harbor and the Free Port of Subic, where they observed the advanced technology operations and the potentials for cooperation, mutual investments and exchange of facilities between the Philippines and Peru.

8. President Fujimori visited the International Rice Research Institute and the University of the Philippines, Los Baños, on which occasion he was conferred the Degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa by the University. For this distinction, he expressed appreciation on behalf of the people of Peru. During this visit it was agreed that academic cooperation be promoted between the universities of the Philippines and Peru.

9. President Fujimori participated, with members of his delegation, in a luncheon organized by the Makati Business Club jointly with the Management Association of the Philippines, and Financial Executives of the Philippines. He spoke to the Philippine business community on developing productive links between the private sectors, particularly in investments, trade and strategic alliances, to take advantage of the special geo-economic location of both countries.

10. President Ramos expressed his appreciation for the decision of the Government of Peru to re-open the resident Embassy of Peru in Manila in 1995, and recognized its achievements in further strengthening bilateral relations.

11. The two Presidents expressed their common desire to further intensify the growing bilateral ties between the two countries. In this regard, they acknowledged the great potential that exists for closer economic ties and cooperation, including trade, investments, and scientific and technical cooperation.

12. The two leaders welcomed the signing on the 15th of November 1996 of the Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement, the Cultural Agreement, and the Agreement on the Waiver of Visa Requirements for Diplomatic, Official and Special Passports. They were of the view that these agreements provide the necessary framework for active and enhanced economic, technical, scientific, and cultural cooperation.

13. They also agreed to conclude as soon as possible the on-going negotiations on the "Agreement for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments".

14. The two leaders commended the efforts of the private sector to establish closer contacts and cooperation between their respective entrepreneurs. In this regard, they noted with satisfaction the signing during President Fujimori's visit of the Memorandum of Understanding between business representatives of both countries that creates the Philippine-Peru Business Council. They agreed that there are wide opportunities for the private sectors in the two countries to work together in a number of areas.

15. President Ramos and President Fujimori agreed to promote the economic interests of their countries, offering the facilities and infrastructure of each one as the gateway to the Latin American and the Southeast Asia regions, respectively.

16. President Fujimori expressed the deepest gratitude of Peru for the Philippine Government's commitment to support and promote Peru's participation in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) working groups, as well as Peru's aspirations to become soon a full member of APEC.

17. Reaffirming their commitment to the principles of open economy and free trade, the two leaders agreed on the need for both countries to cooperate in international fora to ensure the maintenance of the market economy system, which is the essence of global economic growth. In this regard, both leaders hailed the contribution of the Asia-Pacific economies to international stability and the relevance of the guiding principles of openness, equality and development in the Asia-Pacific economic fora.

18. Both leaders agreed to hold regular inter-governmental consultations, at the appropriate level, on major international issues, with a view to contributing to the building of an international system based on greater mutual confidence and transparency.

19. Both leaders stressed the importance of cooperation between developing countries and in this regard pledged to support all efforts toward greater South-South cooperation. They recognized the fact that the countries of the South have developed skills and expertise as well as agricultural and industrial capacities which can benefit all developing countries.

20. Both leaders were of the view that the Non-Aligned Movement remains a cohesive force and continues to have relevance and the capacity to respond to the changing global situation. In this regard, they agreed that their respective delegations would work closely together during the future meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement.

21. Both leaders agreed that in view of the increased membership of the United Nation and the changed global circumstances, there should be a review of the U.N. system, especially of the U.N. Security Council. The reform of the U.N. Security Council should include the enlargement of its membership and greater democratization in the Council's decision-making process.


22. Both Presidents re-affirmed their countries' recognition of the universality and inherent nature of human rights, the indivisibility of the political, social and economic development and cultural dimensions of human rights, and the need to address the promotion of these rights in an integrated manner. They supported the right to development as an integral part of human rights.

23. President Fujimori reiterated his cordial invitation for President and Mrs. Ramos to visit Peru in 1997. President Ramos accepted the invitation with appreciation. Mutually convenient dates for the visit will be arranged through diplomatic channels.

24. President Fujimori expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome and kind expressions of friendship and hospitality extended to him and the members of his delegation during their stay in the Philippines.



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Minister of Education
Republic of Peru



DOMINGO L. SIAZON, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
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Manila, 16 November 1996

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