

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF JAPAN  
AND  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

The Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Republic of the Philippines, hereinafter referred to individually as a “Participant” and collectively as “the Participants”,

Considering the global nature of environmental problems and recognizing mutual responsibility for preservation and improvement of the environment,

Striving to expand the cooperation in the field of environmental protection, recognizing the importance of protecting and improving the environment for present and future generations,

Taking into account the experience gained in the field of international environmental cooperation; and

Based on the provisions of international treaties regarding environmental protection to which the Participants have joined,

Have reached the following views on the Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as “this MOC”) in the field of environmental protection:

**Paragraph 1  
Objective**

The Participants will cooperate in the field of environmental protection on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, guided by the goals and principles of sustainable development, in accordance with national laws and international treaties applicable to both countries.

**Paragraph 2  
Areas of Cooperation**

The cooperation under this MOC will include the following areas:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Air quality management
- Water quality management
- Chemical management
- Waste management including plastic and e-waste
- Biodiversity conservation

The cooperation can also be carried out in other areas decided by the Participants.

**Paragraph 3  
Implementation and Forms of Cooperation**

The cooperation under this MOC may take the following forms:

- Policy dialogue on a regular basis, capacity building through holding meetings, conferences, symposiums, workshops, seminars and trainings;
- Exchange of knowledge, experience, best practices, scientific and technical information and data on environmental policies;
- Exchange of information and consultations regarding global environmental negotiations processes and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs);
- Identifying sources of international project funding and encourage opportunities for private investments; and
- Any other forms of cooperation that may be jointly decided by the Participants, within their respective mandates.

The implementation of cooperation under this MOC may be covered by a separate arrangement, made by the Participants.

#### **Paragraph 4 Modification**

This MOC may be modified at any time through mutual written consent of the Participants, through diplomatic channels. Such modifications will commence in line with the matter on commencement under Paragraph 6 hereof and will be an integral part of this MOC.

#### **Paragraph 5 Difference Settlement**

In case of any differences regarding the interpretation or application of the matters of this MOC, the Participants will resolve and settle amicably by consultations, through diplomatic channels.

#### **Paragraph 6 Commencement, Duration, Discontinuation and other matters**

The cooperation under this MOC will commence on the date of later written notification by a Participant indicating that the respective domestic requirements for its commencement have been complied with.

The cooperation will continue for a period of five (5) years and may be extended by mutual written consent of the Participants or discontinued at any time by either Participant by giving a written notification, through diplomatic channels, at least six (6) months prior to the date of the intended discontinuation.

The discontinuation of the cooperation will not affect the duration of any ongoing projects or activities until the completion of such projects or activities, unless the Participants decide otherwise.

The matters of this MOC will be without prejudice to laws on the public's right to information on matters of public concern, and full disclosure on transactions involving public interest.

This MOC will not affect any legal rights and obligations under domestic and international law.

Signed on 17 December 2023, in two original copies, each in the English language.

**For and on behalf  
of the Ministry  
of the Environment of Japan**

**ITO SHINTARO**  
Minister

**For and on behalf  
of the Department of Environment and  
Natural Resources  
of the Republic of the Philippines**

**MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA**  
Secretary