



Treaty Series No. 16 (2014)

Exchange of Notes

between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines to amend the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of the Philippines, done at London on 18 September 2009

Manila, 8 January 2014 and 28 January 2014

[The Exchange of Notes entered into force on 28 January 2014]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
August 2014*



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EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO AMEND THE TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, DONE AT LONDON ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2009

No.1

The British Embassy in Manila to the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

8 January 2014

NOTE No. 003-14

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and has the honour to refer to previous discussions, initiated in September 2013 and including discussion at the UK/Philippines High Level Political Talks on 21 November 2013, proposing a technical amendment to the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of the Philippines.

Article 3, paragraph 6 of the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of the Philippines states " The Contracting States may, at any time, designate any other authority as a Central Authority for the purposes of this Treaty. Notification of such a designation will take place by exchange of diplomatic notes."

The Embassy wishes to inform the Department that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland wishes to amend the designated Central Authority for the purposes of this Treaty and proposes that paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 3 be amended as follows:

"2. For the United Kingdom, the Central Authorities for the purposes of sending requests shall be:

- (a) the United Kingdom Central Authority; and
- (b) the Lord Advocate (for matters pertaining to Scotland).

3. For the United Kingdom, the Central Authorities for the purpose of receiving requests shall be:

- (a) the United Kingdom Central Authority;
- (b) the Lord Advocate (for matters pertaining to Scotland); and/or
- (c) Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.”

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland further proposes that this Note and the reply Note from the Government of the Philippines accepting this proposal shall constitute an Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Philippines, which shall enter into force on the date of the Notification sent by the Government of the Philippines to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Embassy attaches a draft reply Note for the Department's consideration.

The Embassy is keen to see the proposed technical amendment to the Treaty agreed to in order to facilitate the growing cooperation between the respective law enforcement agencies in our two countries. The effect of this change will be to allow the Government of the United Kingdom to respond more quickly to requests from the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for Assistance.

Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines the assurances of its highest consideration.

No.2

The Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines to the British Embassy in Manila

28 January 2014

NOTE No. 14-0305

The Department of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's Note No. 003-14 of 8 January 2014 proposing an amendment to the Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Republic of the Philippines and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland which reads as follows;

[As in No.1]

The Department of Foreign Affairs has considered the proposal contained in the Embassy's Note 003-14 and, pursuant to Article 3 (6) of the Treaty, accepts this exchange of Notes as constituting an Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and that this amendment shall enter into force on the date of this Note.

The Department of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the assurances of its highest consideration.

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