

## Backgrounder

### NEW BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE PHILIPPINES

#### Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), Mississauga, Ontario

AECL has signed a technical co-operation agreement with the Philippines Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) of the Department of Science and Technology. The agreement provides a framework for joint research programs and the training and exchange of personnel.

#### Canadian Communications Consortium (CCC)<sup>1</sup>, Vancouver, British Columbia

The CCC<sup>2</sup> has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Philippine Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) to undertake a feasibility study of a satellite-based education network. The network would distribute courses and education curriculum for DECS and other departments.

The CCC also signed an agreement with its sister company, the Communications Consortium of Asia, the ABS-CBN Foundation and Skycable to establish the Philippines International Distance Learning Institute. This institute would provide continuous management, operations and production support for preparation of interactive audio-visual courses, including curriculum development. The institute would also provide internationally accredited distance learning courses to students throughout the Philippines who cannot attend traditional classroom based institutions.

#### Cree Construction Company, St-Laurent, Quebec

The Cree Construction Company has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Philippine Department of Public Works and Highways to undertake a feasibility study for the construction of the East-West lateral road in Mindanao. The road project is a priority for the Philippine government; upon completion, it will help bring considerable economic activity to this developing region of the Philippines.

#### LanSer Technologies, Westmount, Quebec

LanSer Technologies has signed a technical service agreement with Philippines Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) to provide its CELLPAC™ wireless data communications service. PLDT is the largest telephone company in the Philippines and the principal supplier of long distance telephone services. It has supplied about 90 per cent of all telephone installations nationwide.