as regards the Philippines,
a period of contributions used to acquire the right to a benefit under the legislation of the Philippines, but does not include periods for which contributions have been refunded,

however, a period which shall be taken into account, for the purpose of establishing entitlement to benefits under the legislation of a Contracting State, pursuant to other agreements on social security comparable with this Agreement, shall not be included;

(h) "benefit" means,

a pension or any other cash benefits under the legislation of a Contracting State.

2. For the purpose of this Agreement, any term not defined in this Agreement shall have the meaning assigned to it under the applicable legislation.

Article 2
Matters Covered

This Agreement shall apply,

1. as regards Japan, to the following Japanese pension systems:

(a) the National Pension (except the National Pension Fund); and

(b) the Employees' Pension Insurance (except the Employees' Pension Fund);

however, for the purpose of this Agreement, the National Pension shall not include the Old Age Welfare Pension or any other pensions which are granted on a transitional or complementary basis for the purpose of welfare and which are payable wholly or mainly out of national budgetary resources; and

2. as regards the Philippines, to the following laws:

(a) Republic Act No. 8282, otherwise known as the Social Security Act of 1997, as it relates to retirement, disability and death benefits;

(b) Republic Act No. 8291, otherwise known as the Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997, as it relates to retirement, disability, death and survivorship benefits; and

(c) Republic Act No. 7699, otherwise known as the Portability Law of 1994, as it relates to totalizing periods of contribution and service under the laws specified in subparagraphs (a) and (b).

Article 3
Persons Covered

This Agreement shall apply to a person who is or has been subject to the legislation of a Contracting State, as well as family members or survivors who derive rights from such person.

Article 4
Equality of Treatment

Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, the persons specified in Article 3, who ordinarily reside in the territory of a Contracting State, shall receive equal treatment with nationals of that Contracting State in the application of the legislation of that Contracting State.

Article 5
Payment of Benefits Abroad

1. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, any provision of the legislation of a Contracting State which restricts entitlement to or payment of benefits solely because the person ordinarily resides outside the territory of that Contracting State shall not be applicable to persons who ordinarily reside in the territory of the other Contracting State.

2. Benefits under the legislation of a Contracting State shall be paid to the persons specified in Article 3, who ordinarily reside in the territory of a third State, under the same conditions as if they were nationals of that Contracting State.