



Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
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GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 12
Series of 2016

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has issued a directive to streamline processes in the deployment of overseas Filipino workers to afford them facility and ease of transactions in various government entities involved in their departure;

WHEREAS, there is a clamor from OFWs to simplify procedures and requirements for fast and efficient processing of employment documents;

WHEREAS, OFW Balik-Manggagawa (BM) comprising about 64% of the total deployment of OFWs, account for a big bulk of workers that undergo the process of documentation with the POEA. During peak seasons like the Christmas holidays and school graduations, the volume of OFWs securing overseas employment certificate (OECs) escalates to about 5,000 to 7,000 workers a day;

WHEREAS, it has been observed that Balik-Manggagawa workers frequently return to the country for short vacations, especially those working in countries near the Philippines;

WHEREAS, although a system has been in place allowing BM workers to do online processing of their documents with corresponding electronic payment of processing fees prior to the printing of OECs, stakeholders have requested for an enhanced system with possible exemption from the payment of POEA processing fees and the issuance of OECs;

NOW, WHEREFORE, premises considered, the POEA Governing Board, in a meeting duly convened, **RESOLVES AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to exempt workers returning to the same employer and jobsite from the OEC requirement on a pilot project basis, subject to the following conditions:

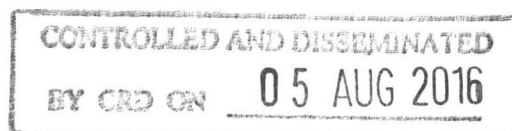
I. COVERAGE

The following will be exempted from the OEC requirement on a pilot project basis:

1. BMs who are returning to the same employer and jobsite and with existing record/s in the POEA database; and
2. BMs hired through the Government Placement Branch (GPB).

II. MECHANICS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The BM worker shall use of the existing BM online facility and prior to her/his departure. The worker has to register in the system by providing her/his personal and employment particulars to validate if she/he is exempted from obtaining the OEC. Her/His updated profile shall be stored in the POEA database and electronically transmitted to the Bureau of Immigration (BI) to serve as reference of the Immigration officer in validating the exemption of the worker during her/his departure. There will be no processing fee when the worker avails of this clearance.



BM workers who are not exempted from obtaining the OEC during the time of registration will be directed to the BM online web page where they shall register and set an appointment with any preferred POEA office/center.


Those who will go directly to the BI counter at the airport without appropriate registration will be referred by the Immigration Officer concerned to the Labor Assistance Counter (LAC) for evaluation to determine if the worker may be cleared for departure or be subjected to further evaluation/completion of documents.

III. TRAVEL TAX AND TERMINAL FEE EXEMPTION


The BM worker shall be exempt from paying the travel tax and terminal upon the presentation of the valid work visa/work permit/valid employment contract/valid company ID/recent payroll slip or other equivalent document to the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) and the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA).

The POEA will issue implementing guidelines to operationalize the system which shall have the pilot implementation in the 1st week of September 2016.

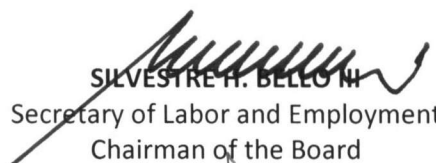
Done in the City of Manila, this 4th day of August 2016.



MILAGROS ISABEL A. CRISTOBAL
Member




ESTRELITA S. HIZON
Member




SILVESTRE H. BELLO III
Secretary of Labor and Employment
Chairman of the Board



HANS LEO J. CACDAC
POEA Administrator
Vice Chairman



ALEXANDER E. ASUNCION
Member



FELIX M. OCA
Member

CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED
BY CRD ON 05 AUG 2016