

2018 MONTH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINOS AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY

The month of December is known as the “MONTH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINOS.” The annual celebration of the MOF in the Philippines started in 1988, when then President Corazon Aquino issued Proclamation No. 276, which institutionalized the month-long celebration every December. This is in recognition of the significant contributions of overseas Filipinos to Philippine development and the restoration of Philippine democracy.

In the global scene, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed December 18 each year as International Migrants Day in 2000. On this important date, all member-states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, will commence the occasion and disseminate information regarding the fundamental rights and freedom of migrants.

In 2007, an Inter-Agency Committee for the Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos and International Migrants Day was created through Administrative Order No. 202 issued by then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The IAC, which is a migrant civil society and government partnership, is tasked to come up with and organize activities for the MOF celebration. It is composed of the following members:

- Philippine Migrants Rights Watch (Chair)
- Commission on Filipinos Overseas (Co-Chair)
- Department of Foreign Affairs
- Department of Labor and Employment
- Department of Health
- Department of Tourism
- Department of the Interior and Local Government
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Department of Social Work and Development
- Presidential Communications Operations Office
- National Commission for Culture and the Arts
- Film Development Council of the Philippines
- Overseas Workers Welfare Administration
- Philippine Overseas Employment Administration
- National Reintegration Center for OFWs
- Bureau of Immigration
- Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
- Pag-IBIG Home Development Mutual Fund
- Social Security System
- Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines
- League of Provinces of the Philippines
- League of Cities of the Philippines
- League of Municipalities of the Philippines
- Philippine Migration Research Network
- Migrant Forum in Asia

Supported by:



The theme of this year’s MOF is “Kaalaman sa Pera, Maginhawang Buhay ang Dala: Towards Financial Literacy for Overseas Filipinos and their Families”.

Often, we hear of sad stories of how some OFs would finally come home in the Philippines and stay for good, only to realize that after so many years of working abroad, they are left with nothing because of them not being able to manage their finances properly. The theme is timely and in line with the policy pronouncement of providing assistance to overseas Filipinos and bringing government services closer to migrants, including financial literacy and investment opportunities for overseas Filipinos and their families. It will highlight the various financial literacy programs of the government, private sector and civil society.

The major activities lined-up for this year’s celebration are the Migrant Health Fair and Regional Forum on Migration in Pangasinan, Negros Oriental and Misamis Oriental, International Forum on Migration in Malaysia and UAE, Cineforum on Migration and National Forum on Migration in Manila, which will be the culminating MOF activity on December 18.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

MIGRANTS’ HEALTH FAIR AND REGIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN PANGASINAN

October 16, 2018 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sison Auditorium, Provincial Capitol Complex, Lingayen, Pangasinan

REGIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN NEGROS ORIENTAL

November 9, 2018

Sison Auditorium, Provincial Capitol Complex, Lingayen, Pangasinan

MIGRANTS’ HEALTH FAIR AND REGIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN MISAMIS ORIENTAL

November 13, 2018, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Misamis Oriental

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

November 24, 2018, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

The One Hall KLCC Auditorium and Multipurpose Hall, Level 10 Menara TA Condominium, KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

November 30, 2018, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Villa 234-851 Al Qusais 3, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR FILIPINO INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS OVERSEAS (PAFIOO) AND MODEL OFW OF THE YEAR AWARD (MOFYA)

December 5, 2018, 4:00 – 7:00

Venue: Malacañan Palace, Manila

CINEFORUM ON MIGRATION

December, 14, 2018, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Cinematheque Centre Manila, Film Development Council of the Philippines, Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila

NATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION

December 18, 2018, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Venue: Hotel Jen, Pasay City



October 16, 2018 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
MIGRANTS' HEALTH FAIR AND REGIONAL FORUM
ON MIGRATION IN PANGASINAN
Venue: Sison Auditorium, Provincial Capitol Complex, Lingayen, Pangasinan
Open to OFs and their families in Pangasinan

The Migrants' Health Fair with the theme “Migranteng Pilipino: Kalusugan Iyong Pahalagahan, Maginhawang Buhay Makakamtan” aims to provide free health promotional and wellness activities to the Overseas Filipinos and their family members. Activities and services include hataw exercise, basic medical check-up, healthy lifestyle promotion, etc.

The Forum with a theme “Kaalaman sa Pera, Maginhawang Buhay ang Dala: Towards Financial Literacy for Overseas Filipinos and their Families” aims to provide awareness on the different financial literacy programs and investment opportunities for overseas Filipinos and their families.

Lance Velasco, PMRW -(632) 526-9098; pmrw@pmrw.org.ph
Frencel Tingga, CFO -(632) 552-4766; ftingga@cfo.gov.ph
Dr. Joel Buenaventura, DOH -(632) 651-7800 loc. 1352; jhbuenaventura.bihc@gmail.com

November 9, 2018
REGIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN NEGROS ORIENTAL
Venue: Sison Auditorium, Provincial Capitol Complex, Lingayen, Pangasinan
Open to OFs and their families in Pangasinan

The Forum with a theme “Kaalaman sa Pera, Maginhawang Buhay ang Dala: Towards Financial Literacy for Overseas Filipinos and their Families” aims to provide awareness on the different financial literacy programs and investment opportunities for overseas Filipinos and their families.

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November 13, 2018, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
MIGRANTS' HEALTH FAIR AND REGIONAL FORUM
ON MIGRATION IN MISAMIS ORIENTAL
Venue: TBA, Misamis Oriental
Open to OFs and their families in Pangasinan

The Migrants' Health Fair with the theme “Migranteng Pilipino: Kalusugan Iyong Pahalagahan, Maginhawang Buhay Makakamtan” aims to provide free health promotional and wellness activities to the Overseas Filipinos and their family members. Activities and services include hataw exercise, basic medical check-up, healthy lifestyle promotion, etc.

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Dr. Joel Buenaventura, DOH -(632) 651-7800 loc. 1352; jhbuenaventura.bihc@gmail.com

November 16, 2018, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
3RD NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRANT HEALTH
Venue: Camelot Hotel, 35 Mother Ignacia Ave., Diliman, Quezon City
By invitation only

The biennial conference with a theme “Mainstreaming Migrant Health Towards Boosting Universal Healthcare” is organized by the Department of Health (DOH), in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Philippine Migrant Health Network (PMHN). It will focus on pertinent issues affecting the health of migrants, Overseas Filipinos and their families.

Ms. Heidi Umadac/ Mr. Rennel Villacastin, PMHN
(632) 651-7800 loc. 1315 or 1352; pmhn.secretariat@gmail.com

November 21, 2018, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
8th OFW AND FAMILY SUMMIT
Venue: World Trade Center, Pasay City
Open to OFs and their families

The one-day summit with the theme “OFW: Perang Pinaghirapan, Palaguin,” will focus on topics that will guide OFWs and their families how to make their money grow. The summit is open for all OFWs or their beneficiaries such as spouse, children, parents or siblings. Registration is free upon presentation of a photocopy of passport, proof of remittance, sea man’s book, job contract and proof of kinship to OFW such as marriage certificate or birth certificate. Online registration can also be done through <http://ofwsummit2018.villarsipag.org>.

Villar SIPAG Foundation -(632) 918-272-7503, 584-6283; ofwsummit@villarsipag.org

November 24, 2018, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
Venue: The One Hall KLCC Auditorium and Multipurpose Hall, Level 10 Menara TA Condominium, KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

International Forum on Migration with a theme “Kaalaman sa Pera, Maginhawang Buhay ang Dala: Towards Financial Literacy for Overseas Filipinos and their Families”. The forum is free of charge for Filipino migrants in time for the Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos.

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Frencel Tingga, CFO -(632) 552-4766; ftingga@cfo.gov.ph

November 30, 2018, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Venue: Villa 234-851 Al Qusais 3, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

International Forum on Migration with a theme “Kaalaman sa Pera, Maginhawang Buhay ang Dala: Towards Financial Literacy for Overseas Filipinos and their Families”. The forum is free of charge for Filipino migrants in time for the Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos.

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December 3, 2018, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
OFW DAY – PAG-IBIG
Venue: Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City
By invitation only

The celebration aims to pay tribute to hardworking overseas workers who continue to commit themselves in uplifting their families’ standards of living and to their significant role in nation’s economic progress.

Ms. Jesely Lastimosa, Pag-IBIG Fund -(632) 840-1793; jmlastimosa@pagibigfund.gov.ph

December 5, 2018, 4:00 – 7:00
PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR FILIPINO INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS OVERSEAS (PAFIOO) AND MODEL OFW OF THE YEAR AWARD (MOFYA)
Venue: Malacañan Palace, Manila
By invitation only

PAFIOO are conferred by the President of the Philippines to honor and recognize overseas Filipinos and organizations which have selflessly supported relief, rehabilitation and development programs in the Philippines, contributed to the betterment of Filipino communities abroad or who have exceptionally excelled in their field of profession.

The MOFYA promotes success stories about the OFW families’ resilience amidst the challenges of overseas employment and uplifts the image of the OFW families in the community.

It also highlights the role of the OFW family acting as a unit in the attainment of socio-civic, educational, professional, and material success.

Ms. Jo Rodriguez, CFO -(632) 552-4767; ftingga@cfo.gov.ph
OWW A -(632) 891-7741

December, 10, 2018, 7:30 – 9:30 pm
SPIROU 4 RIGHTS COMIC EXHIBITION
Venue: Alliance Française Manille, 209 Nicanor Garcia Street, Bel-Air II, Makati City
By invitation only

To celebrate Human Rights Day and to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Union Member States Embassies in Manila, together with the European Union Delegation to the Philippines presents the opening of a Comic Exhibition, “Spirou 4 Rights.” Based on the popular Belgian comic series, this exhibition will showcase human rights statements illustrated to appeal to both young and old.

Courtesy of the European Union Delegation to the Philippines

December, 14, 2018, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
CINEFORUM ON MIGRATION
Venue: Cinematheque Centre Manila, Film Development Council of the Philippines, Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila
Open to the public

The cineforum will feature the film “Bagahe” starring Angeli Bayani and directed by Zig Dulay. The film explores the life of an OFW, named Mercy, who is suspected of abandoning a newborn child in a trash bin of an airplane toilet. The film shows what happens to her while being investigated. It also tackles social cost of migration and abuses faced by OFW domestic workers in the Middle East.

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December 18, 2018, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
NATIONAL FORUM ON MIGRATION
Venue: Hotel Jen, Pasay City

This is the culminating activity of the MOF and the International Migrants’ Day Celebration.

The theme of this year’s forum is “KAALAMAN SA PERA, MAGINHAWANG BUHAY ANG DALA: TOWARDS FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINOS AND THEIR FAMILIES.” This is in line with the policy pronouncement of President Rodrigo Duterte of providing assistance to overseas Filipinos and bringing government services closer to migrants, including financial literacy and investment opportunities for overseas Filipinos and their families. It will also highlight the various financial literacy programs of the government, private sector and civil society organizations offered to returning OFWs, trafficking victims and other overseas Filipinos. In addition, a Cultural Presentation will be part of this forum to showcase Filipino arts and culture to the participants and uplift their sense of national pride.

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