

27 February 2009

Alberto G. Romulo  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of the Philippines

Your Excellency

I have the honour to refer to our discussions in relation to temporary employment in New Zealand of Nurses, Farm Managers and Engineering Professionals that are nationals of the Philippines. I wish to propose the following:

- New Zealand will allow up to 100 Philippines nurses to work in New Zealand as Registered Nurses at any one time for a period of up to three years, provided that they:
  - (i) have a bona fide job offer as a Registered Nurse from a New Zealand employer;
  - (ii) hold a qualification which has been assessed as equivalent to a New Zealand Bachelor of Nursing or Diploma in Comprehensive Nursing, diploma or hospital based certificate; and
  - (iii) hold New Zealand registration (including Philippines nurses who apply from within New Zealand).

Philippines nurses may apply from any country for entry into New Zealand under this Arrangement.

A Philippines nurse who applies for entry under this Arrangement may be permitted to study in New Zealand for up to three months in order to attend a six to eight week long bridging course, and to sit the examination to gain New Zealand registration. A nurse with a job offer from a District Health Board may be permitted to enter on a temporary work visa, enabling the nurse to work while studying.

New Zealand will encourage its relevant agencies to cooperate with the relevant agencies in the Philippines to explore further possible steps in facilitation of the recruitment of nurses who are nationals of the Philippines by New Zealand District Health Boards in a manner that meets the interests of both Participants.

- New Zealand will, allow up to 20 Philippines Farm Managers ordinarily resident in the Philippines to enter New Zealand at any one time for a period of up to three years, provided that they:
  - (i) have a bona fide job offer from a New Zealand employer as a Farm Manager, which has been assessed as equivalent to ANZSCO Skill Level 1; and
  - (ii) have a relevant qualification and/or work experience.
- New Zealand will allow up to 20 Philippines Engineering Professionals ordinarily resident in the Philippines to enter New Zealand at any one time for a period of up to three years, provided that they;
  - (i) have a bona fide job offer as an Engineering Professional from a New Zealand employer, which has been assessed as equivalent to ANZSCO Skill Level 1;
  - (ii) have a degree level (level 7 or above) qualification registered on the International Professional Engineers Register or Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Engineers Register, or Washington Accord accredited engineering degree; and
  - (iii) hold New Zealand registration, where required;

Entry into New Zealand under this Arrangement is conditional on the applicant fulfilling all other immigration requirements for applicants applying to work in New Zealand, including health and character requirements.

Philippines Nurses, Farm Managers and Engineering Professionals who have spent three years in New Zealand working under this Arrangement are not eligible to apply to re-enter New Zealand under this Arrangement unless they have spent a minimum of three years out of New Zealand.

I have the honour to propose that, if the above proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, this letter and your confirmatory reply constitute an arrangement (“the Arrangement”) between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines (“the Participants”) entering into effect on the same date as the *Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area* enters into force for the Republic of the Philippines.

Either Participant may, at any time, through the diplomatic channel request consultations on the provisions of this Arrangement. The other Participant will respond to the request for consultations within sixty (60) days.

Yours sincerely

Hon Tim Groser  
Minister of Trade  
New Zealand

27 February 2009

Hon Tim Groser  
Minister of Trade  
New Zealand

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to refer to our discussions in relation to temporary employment in New Zealand of Philippines nurses, Farm Managers and Engineering Professionals and your letter of 27 February 2009, which reads:

“I have the honour to refer to our discussions in relation to temporary employment in New Zealand of Nurses, Farm Managers and Engineering Professionals that are nationals of the Philippines. I wish to propose the following;

- New Zealand will allow up to 100 Philippines nurses to work in New Zealand as Registered Nurses at any one time for a period of up to three years, provided that they:
  - (i) have a bona fide job offer as a Registered Nurse from a New Zealand employer;
  - (ii) hold a qualification which has been assessed as equivalent to a New Zealand Bachelor of Nursing or Diploma in Comprehensive Nursing, diploma or hospital based certificate; and
  - (iii) hold New Zealand registration (including Philippines nurses who apply from within New Zealand).

Philippines nurses may apply from any country for entry into New Zealand under this Arrangement.

A Philippines nurse who applies for entry under this Arrangement may be permitted to study in New Zealand for up to three months in order to attend a six to eight week long bridging course, and to sit the examination to gain New Zealand registration. A nurse with a job offer from a District Health Board may be permitted to enter

on a temporary work visa, enabling the nurse to work while studying.

New Zealand will encourage its relevant agencies to cooperate with the relevant agencies in the Philippines to explore further possible steps in facilitation of the recruitment of nurses who are nationals of the Philippines by New Zealand District Health Boards in a manner that meets the interests of both Participants.

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  - (i) have a bona fide job offer from a New Zealand employer as a Farm Manager, which has been assessed as equivalent to ANZSCO Skill Level 1; and
  - (ii) have a relevant qualification and/or work experience.
- New Zealand will allow up to 20 Philippines Engineering Professionals ordinarily resident in the Philippines to enter New Zealand at any one time for a period of up to three years, provided that they;
  - (i) have a bona fide job offer as an Engineering Professional from a New Zealand employer, which has been assessed as equivalent to ANZSCO Skill Level 1;
  - (ii) have a degree level (level 7 or above) qualification registered on the International Professional Engineers Register or Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Engineers Register, or Washington Accord accredited engineering degree; and
  - (iii) hold New Zealand registration, where required;

Entry into New Zealand under this Arrangement is conditional on the applicant fulfilling all other immigration requirements for applicants applying to work in New Zealand, including health and character requirements.

Philippines Nurses, Farm Managers and Engineering Professionals who have spent three years in New Zealand working under this Arrangement are not eligible to apply to re-enter New Zealand under this Arrangement unless they have spent a minimum of three years out of New Zealand.

I have the honour to propose that, if the above proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, this letter and your confirmatory reply constitute an arrangement ("the Arrangement") between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines ("the Participants") entering into effect on the same date as the *Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area* enters into force for the Republic of the Philippines.

Either Participant may, at any time, through the diplomatic channel request consultations on the provisions of this Arrangement. The other Participant will respond to the request for consultations within sixty (60) days."

I have the honour to confirm that your proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines. Therefore, your letter and this reply shall constitute an arrangement between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines.

Yours sincerely

Alberto G. Romulo  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of the Philippines