

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 on the subject of a Working Holiday Scheme between New Zealand and the Philippines. I wish to propose that officials from New Zealand and the Philippines enter into negotiations for a reciprocal Working Holiday Scheme arrangement.

The Working Holiday Scheme would be open to up to 100 citizens of each country who meet that country's requirements for a working holiday maker, which for a working holiday maker from the Philippines coming to New Zealand will include, *inter alia*:

- A university qualification granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full time study;
- A level of proficiency in English which is assessed as at least functional;
- Possession of sufficient funds for his/her maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand at the discretion of the relevant authorities. This would currently be set at NZ\$4,200.

If the above proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, I propose that this letter and your confirmatory reply constitute a record of the joint understanding between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines to enter into negotiations for a Working Holiday Scheme.

Yours sincerely

Hon Tim Groser  
Minister of Trade  
New Zealand

27 February 2009

Hon Tim Groser  
Minister of Trade  
New Zealand

Dear Minister,

I refer to our discussions on the subject of a Working Holiday Scheme between New Zealand and the Philippines and your letter of 27 February 2009 which reads:

“I have the honour to refer to our discussions on the subject of a Working Holiday Scheme between New Zealand and the Philippines. I wish to propose that officials from New Zealand and the Philippines enter into negotiations for a reciprocal Working Holiday Scheme arrangement.

The Working Holiday Scheme would be open to up to 100 citizens of each country who meet that country's requirements for a working holiday maker, which for a working holiday maker from the Philippines coming to New Zealand will include, *inter alia*:

- A university qualification granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full time study;
- A level of proficiency in English which is assessed as at least functional;
- Possession of sufficient funds for his/her maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand at the discretion of the relevant authorities. This would currently be set at NZ\$4,200.

If the above proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Philippines, I propose that this letter and your confirmatory reply constitute a record of the joint understanding between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines to enter into negotiations for a Working Holiday Scheme.”

I have the honour to confirm that your proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Philippines. Therefore, your letter and this reply constitute a record of the joint understanding between New Zealand and the Republic of the Philippines to enter into negotiations for a Working Holiday Scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Alberto G. Romulo

Secretary of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of the Philippines