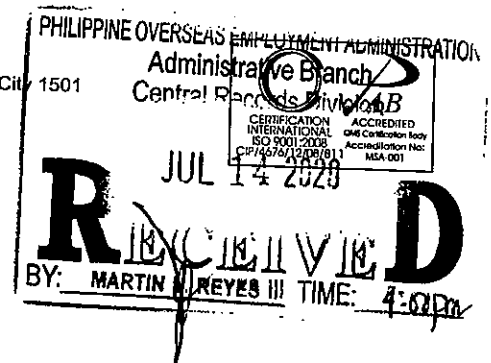




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**Italy's Extension of Permits of Stay (*Permesso di Soggiorno*)
and New Government Measures for Migrant Workers**

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), in its communication dated 18 May 2020, informs on the extension of permits to stay (*permesso di soggiorno*) and enumerates the following measures of the Italian Government which may affect Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) in Italy:

1. Foreign Nationals' Permit of Stay

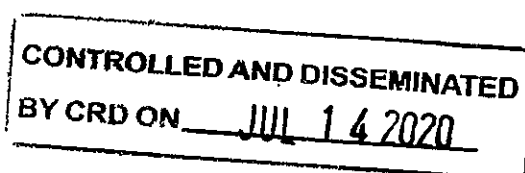
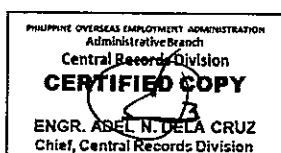
The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC) announced that the extension to 31 August 2020 of the validity of the permits of stay (*permesso di soggiorno*) carried by foreign nationals is applicable only to those permits that are expired or expiring between 31 January 2020 and 31 July 2020. This time frame corresponds to the period of the validity of Italy's national state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MFAIC further confirmed that foreign citizens present in the Italian territory for a brief period of stay, whether with a visa or in visa exemption, and for whom it is impossible to re-enter their countries of origin due to *force majeure* such as the lack of transportation, may continue to stay legally in Italy without any further formalities. The continued stay in Italy beyond the terms of the allowed period will not cause any further prejudice to the legal position of the foreign citizen concerned, except for the obligation of leaving the national territory as soon as it is possible.

2. New Government Measures for Migrant Workers in Italy

On 13 May 2020, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte signed the Relaunch Decree to support business, families, and workers in dealing with the economic impact of COVID-19 that includes the following provisions:

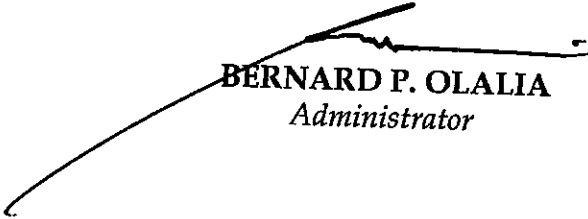
- Migrants working as agricultural laborers, domestic workers and caregivers without legal employment contracts and with expired



residence permits on 31 October 2019 may apply for a six-month temporary residence permit to look for jobs.

- The application for regularization is from 01 June to 15 July 2020. For applications made by employers, a flat-rate of €400 for each worker will be paid by the employer. For applications made by workers, a €160 contribution will be paid for the extension of the expired permit.
- Domestic workers who had one or more employment contracts on 23 February 2020 for a total duration of more than 10 hours per week are granted an allowance of €500 per month for the months of April and May 2020. To avail of this benefit, the domestic worker should not be living with his/her employer or must not have benefitted from other allowances given by the previous *Cura Italia* decree published on 17 March 2020 issuing measures to address the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


BERNARD P. OLALIA
Administrator

07 July 2020

Source:

- 1) Department of Foreign Affairs communication dated 18 May 2020

