



NEW QUOTA DECREE 2010 (DECRETO FLUSSI) TO ALLOW ENTRY OF 100,000 FOREIGN WORKERS TO ITALY

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Rome, Italy has reported that Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has signed the New Quota Decree 2010 (Decreto Flussi) last 30 November 2010 and will come into force once it is published at the Official Gazette. The new decree will allow the entry of 100,000 foreign workers to Italy, **4,000 of which are allotted to the Philippines.**

Under the new decree, around 50,000 non-seasonal workers will be allowed to enter Italy for countries that have stipulated special agreements with the Italian government. Among these countries are: Albania (4,500), Algeria (1,000), Bangladesh (2,400), Egypt (8,000), **Philippines (4, 000)**, Ghana (2,000), Morocco (4,500), Moldavia (5,200), Nigeria (1,500), Pakistan (1,000), Senegal (2,000), Somalia (80), Sri Lanka (3,500), Tunisia (4,000), India (1,800), Peru (1,800), Ukraine (1,800), Niger (1,000), and Gambia (1,000). An extra 1,000 quota was allotted for countries that are finalizing agreements on control of immigrant flow and re-admission procedures while 30,000 quotas are reserved for household service workers and caregivers from other countries.

According to POLO-Rome, while the Philippine government is still in the process of forging a bilateral agreement with Italy, we were already listed as one of those which have forged such agreement.

There is also a possibility that more than 4,000 Filipinos can enter Italy if some of the assigned quotas are still unused 120 days after publication of the new decree. The unused quotas may be reassigned to other countries based on the need of the Italian labor market.

Applications can be submitted online starting at 8:00 AM of the 31st day after publication of the New Quota Decree 2010 at the Official Gazette; household service workers and caregivers will be entertained on the 33rd day; and on the 34th day for other categories.