

**AGREEMENT ON BILATERAL COOPERATION ON LABOUR  
MIGRATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN  
REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES**

The Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Philippine Republic, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties";

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations and the cooperation between the two countries;

In compliance with the principles of the international provisions concerning the rights of migrants and the fundamental rights of workers;

Determined to develop the bilateral cooperation between them, to promote a coordinated and efficient management of migration flows and to implement cooperation mechanisms, including on language and vocational training issues, in the field of migration;

Aiming at facilitating the procedure of recruitment and inclusion of the Philippine citizens in the Italian labour market in case of shortage of local manpower;

Determined to improve seasonal and circular migration mechanisms;

Hereby agree as follows:

**CHAPTER I  
GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

**Article 1  
(Competent Authorities)**

Competent Authorities responsible for the enforcement of the present agreement are:

On the part of the Government of the Italian Republic:

the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies which will avail of:

- Italia Lavoro s.p.a. - *in house* agency of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies;
- authorized Italian bodies responsible for the matching of labour demand and supply;
- certified Italian training bodies.

On the part of the Government of the Philippine Republic:

- the Department of Labour and Employment and its attached agencies;
- the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration;
- Philippine Overseas Labour Office (POLO) in Italy;
- Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA);
- Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and,
- the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC)

## **Article 2 (Objectives)**

1. With the purpose of implementing the present Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall regularly exchange information on the situation of the two labour markets, in particular on the most requested vocational profiles.
2. The Contracting Parties undertake to facilitate the matching between labour demand and supply and to monitor the employment offers available in the two Countries.

## **Article 3 (Entry to Italy for work reasons)**

1. On the basis of the data on effective demand for labour and in compliance with the domestic law in force, including the three-year planning document on migration policies, the Italian party will positively consider allowing the Philippine citizens to enter Italy for seasonal or non-seasonal employment, including professionals.
2. Migrant workers will be allowed to enter, reside and work on the territory of the other Party within limits and under the procedures contemplated by the law in force in the host Country.

## **Article 4 (Protection of rights)**

1. Any national of the Contracting Parties legally working and residing within the territory of the other Party, shall receive equal treatment and full equality of rights as compared to the workers of the host Country, in particular as regards work conditions, social protection, social rights where applicable and the respect of the fundamental rights of workers contemplated under the national regulations in force.

## **CHAPTER II MIGRATION FLOWS**

## **Article 5 (Flows management)**

1. Competent Authorities cooperate for the control and management of labour migration flows between the two Countries.

2. In case of a shortage of manpower, the Contracting Parties shall favour the recruitment and insertion of the Philippine citizens, both in the Italian and in the Philippine labour markets, and shall promote cooperation initiatives, including in the field of vocational training, according to the needs of the Italian and the Philippine markets.

**Article 6**  
**(Preferential quotas)**

1. On the basis of the labour market effective conditions and in compliance with the national regulations in force, the Italian Party will positively consider the assignment of preferential entry quota to the Philippine citizens.
2. The use of the preferential quota will be managed also through the lists referred to articles 8 and 9 of the present Agreement.

**CHAPTER III**  
**SEARCH AND SELECTION OF WORKERS**

**Article 7**  
**(Search for manpower)**

1. Italian employers and authorized Italian bodies willing to select and recruit the Philippine citizens shall fulfil the relevant legislation in force in the two Countries and follow the selection and recruitment procedures established by the Contracting Parties in this Agreement and in any additional protocol.

**Article 8**  
**(Candidate workers and availability lists)**

1. Any citizen of the Philippines willing to be employed in Italy can be included in specific availability lists created by Philippine authorities.
2. The Italian Party undertakes to assure the necessary technical support to the elaboration of the abovementioned lists.
3. The Philippine Authorities through its licensed recruitment agencies will disseminate information on the labour opportunities available in the Italian labour market and assist their sourced applicants to be included in the availability list after ensuring compliance of Italian and the Philippine requirements for overseas employment.

**Article 9**  
**(Creation of the lists)**

1. The lists will be created following the standard format indicated by the Italian Party and will include: professional profile, qualifications, competences and vocational experiences of the candidate, as well as any useful information for its professional inclusion.
2. In any event, the lists will have to adhere to the criteria fixed by the Italian Party and comply to the Italian legislation in force.