Republic of the Philippines

Department of Labor and Employment

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GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 0.3

Series of 2022

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10022 authorizes the POEA Governing Board, after consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), to impose a ban on the deployment of Filipino migrant workers in pursuit of national interest or when public welfare so requires;

WHEREAS, on 08 November 2021, the DFA has informed the Department of Labor and Employment that it has raised the Crisis Alert Level in Ethiopia to Alert Level 4 (Evacuation/Mandatory Repatriation) in view of the continued and escalating conflict between the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Federal Government of Ethiopia;

WHEREAS, the POEA issued Governing Board Resolution No. 12, Series of 2021 on 17 November 2021 imposing a total ban on the deployment of all OFWs bound for Ethiopia;

WHEREAS, in view of the positive developments related to the conflict between Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Federal Government of Ethiopia, the DFA has informed on 02 March 2022 that the alert level in the following eight (8) regions and independent chartered cities of Ethiopia was lowered from Alert Level 4 (Mandatory Evacuation Phase) to Alert Level 2 (Restriction Phase):

- 1. Addis Ababa (independent chartered city)
- 2. Dire Dawa (independent chartered city)
- 3. Oromia
- 4. Somali
- 5. Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region
- 6. Gambella
- 7. Harari
- 8. Southwest Ethiopia People's Region

WHEREAS, under Alert Level 2, the processing and deployment of workers shall be allowed only for OFWs returning to their current employers and are with existing employment contracts; and

WHEREAS, the DFA has maintained Alert Level 4 in the conflict regions of Tigray, Afar, Amhara, and Benishangul-Gumuz.

NOW, THEREFORE, the POEA Governing Board, in a meeting duly convened, RESOLVES AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to allow the processing and deployment of returning Filipino workers (Balik-Manggagawa) to the eight (8) regions and independent chartered cities of Ethiopia as mentioned above, subject to the submission of the following documents recommended by the DFA:

- Valid Ethiopian residence visa and/or working permit;
- 2. Valid employment contract;

3. OEC;

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4. Guarantee letter from employers on repatriation (to indicate options), medical assistance, health insurance; and

5. Guarantee from the employers, as reflected in the employment contract, or addendum to the agreement that Filipino workers will not be deployed to areas under Alert Level 4 (Tigray, Afar, Amhara, and Benishangul-Gumuz).

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the total deployment ban of all OFWs bound for areas under Alert Level 4 (Tigray, Afar, Amhara, and Benishangul-Gumuz) shall be maintained.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the ban on the deployment of newly-hired OFWs shall be maintained until further advice.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this _____ day of April 2022.

SILVESTRE H. BELLO III
Secretary of Labor and Employment

and Chairperson of the POEA Governing Board

BERNARD P. OLALIA

POEA Administrator

and Vice-Chairperson of the POEA Governing Board

NOEL M. MALAYA

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Member

Private Sector Representative

ALEXANDER E. ASUNCION

Member

Landbased Sector Representative

FELIX M. OCA

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Member

Seabased Sector Representative

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