



News Advisory
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Oman restricts entry of foreign workers

The Omani government has put in place controls in the employment of foreign workers as it freezes the entry of expatriates, including Filipinos, who have previously worked in the Sultanate.

POEA Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac said the Philippine Embassy in Muscat has reported that effective 1 July 2014, Oman is issuing employment visas only to expatriate workers who have stayed out of the country for at least two years from the date of their last departure.

Cacdac, however, clarified that the policy only affects foreign workers who have finished their previous contract and went home with the intention of going back to Oman to work for another employer. An expatriate worker who has not completed two years after departure but was called to rejoin the same company is not covered by the ban.

Oman also imposed a ban on employment visa transfers for foreign workers who have not completed two years of their work contract with their company.

“Apparently a way to prevent “piracy”, expats with unfinished contracts are not allowed to change employers even if they have found a better job,” Cacdac said.

Workers may request, however, a “no objection certificate” or NOC from their employer that would legally allow them to transfer to another company. The prohibition on employment visa transfer took effect last 1 June 2014. /END