



PUBLIC ADVISORY

NO. 14- 2020

EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS

19 April 2020 - The extension of the Luzon-wide Enhanced Community Quarantine until 30 April 2020 and the continued suspension of operations of the Office of Consular Affairs in Manila has resulted in the delay of Philippine passport issuances.

In view of this, the Philippine Embassy has been authorized **until 30 April 2020** to extend the validity of a regular passport **under meritorious reasons** for **one (1) year only** from the date of issuance, as a remedial measure to accommodate Filipinos with urgent/impending travel or has an emergency need to possess a valid Philippine passport.

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) requires its Member States to replace, rather than extend expiring machine-readable travel documents. Hence, the use of passports with extended validity may result in the delay or even refusal of entry or boarding by the immigration/border authorities or airlines.

As this is only a remedial measure, ***it is incumbent on the passport holder to inquire with the relevant authorities on the acceptability of the passport with extended validity. Hence, all who will avail of the extension will be required to sign a waiver that they are aware of the attendant risks in using passports with extended validity.***

Only passports with remaining validity can be extended. Those with expired Philippine passports will be issued a travel document, to be used to travel directly to the Philippines only.

The Philippine Embassy reiterates that the practice of ***extension of validity*** of Philippine passports has been discontinued as a matter of policy by the Department of Foreign Affairs and that exemption ***is made only in light of the prevailing public health emergency condition.*** All are gently reminded to renew their passports well in advance before the expiration of the validity to avoid inconvenience.

Please be guided accordingly. Thank you.

§§§