



Republic of the Philippines  
Professional Regulation Commission  
Manila



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_  
Series of 2020

**CANCELLING THE 2020 SPECIAL PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATION (SPLE)  
FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWs) IN VARIOUS  
COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND SINGAPORE**

**WHEREAS**, the Commission is empowered under Sec. 7 (d) of Republic Act (R.A.) 8981 to administer and conduct the licensure examinations of the various regulatory boards in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by it, and to determine and fix the places and dates of such examinations;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 835 dated 06 October 2009 was issued directing the Professional Regulation Commission (Commission) and other government agencies through the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to conduct yearly Special Professional Board Licensure Examinations [hereinafter referred to as Special Professional Licensure Examination (SPLE)], when so warranted, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and other Middle East countries;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission, pursuant to R.A. No. 8981, also conducts licensure examination in countries other than the Middle East;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission issued Resolution No. 1232 (s. 2020) that had set the dates and places for SPLE on 31 July to 2 August 2020 in Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Al Ahmadi, Kuwait; Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia; Doha, Qatar; Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Manama, Bahrain; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and Singapore;

**WHEREAS**, per the COVID-19 Situation Report of the World Health Organization (WHO), the countries in the Middle East and Singapore where the SPLE had been scheduled to be administered showed an increased number of confirmed Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases and as a response thereof, have imposed entry restrictions and quarantine requirements for foreign travelers;

**WHEREAS**, in consideration of the above, a Memorandum dated 08 April 2020 was issued to concerned Labor Attaches and Philippine Professional Organizations (PPO) Chairmen to elicit inputs and recommendations on the possible cancellation or postponement of the SPLE on the basis of the prevailing COVID-19 conditions in their respective jurisdictions;

**WHEREAS**, the concerned Labor Attaches and PPO Chairmen at Abu-Dhabi, Al Ahmadi, Al-Khobar, Jeddah, Manama, Qatar, Riyadh, and Singapore responded to the said memorandum and unanimously recommended to cancel the 2020 SPLE and to reschedule the same at a later appropriate date to preserve the safety, health and welfare of all concerned;

**WHEREAS**, due also to the Presidential declarations of a State of Public Health Emergency under Proclamation No. 922 (s.2020) and a State of Calamity under Proclamation No. 929 (s.2020) throughout the Philippines, and other government issuances on the imposition of community quarantine<sup>1</sup> and foreign travel restrictions<sup>2</sup>, the Professional Regulatory Boards (PRBs) and the Licensure Office (LO) anticipate challenges and complexities in the preparation and conduct of the scheduled SPLE;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the foregoing global uncertainties and imposed foreign travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the concerned PRBs and the LO recommend the cancellation of the 2020 SPLE to the Commission;

**NOW THEREFORE**, considering the foregoing and to further ensure the health and safety of the SPLE examinees, PRC delegates and other examination personnel, the Commission **RESOLVES to CANCEL** the conduct of 31 July to 2 August 2020 SPLE in **Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Al Ahmadi, Kuwait; Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia; Doha, Qatar; Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Manama, Bahrain; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and Singapore;**

<sup>1</sup> IATF Resolutions No. 37 (s.2020) and various Local Executive Orders

<sup>2</sup> No. 4.3.1.3 of National Budget Circular No. 580 dated April 22, 2020

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to authorize the use of examination fees already paid by the 2020 SPLE applicants for the next two (2) scheduled licensure examinations, whichever the applicants may later opt to take, whether locally, or with the next SPLE.

Let a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the President, DOLE, DFA, Philippine Embassies/Consulates, POLO and Filipino professional organizations in the aforementioned testing centers in the Middle East and Singapore for proper information dissemination.

DONE in the City of Manila this \_\_\_\_ day of May 2020.

  
**YOLANDA D. REYES**  
Commissioner

  
**TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.**  
Chairman

  
**JOSEY. CUETO, JR.**  
Commissioner