

**[PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR NO. 007, S. 2012,
February 21, 2012]**

**AMENDMENT TO PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR NO. 22, SERIES OF
2011 ON THE NEW PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS OF OVERSEAS
WORKERS PROGRAM**

I. RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 1571 and PhilHealth Circular No. 22, series of 2011, annual premium contribution under the Overseas Workers Program (OWP) shall increase to TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED PESOS (P2,400.00) effective July 1, 2012. However, in consideration of the request from the civil society and non-government organizations to defer implementation of said premium in light of the global crisis resulting in the repatriation of a number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), the Corporation (through PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 1590, Series of 2012) agreed to defer implementation of the increase of the annual premium contribution under OWP to January 1, 2013.

It must be underscored that the premium increase is in response to the thrust of the Aquino Administration to ensure the realization of Universal Health Care or *Kalusugang Pangkalahatan*, and supports the attainment of health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The Corporation is prioritizing the provision of enhanced benefits to improve financial risk protection with the eventual assignment of every Filipino family to a Primary Care Provider. It also aims to provide members and their qualified dependents the option to avail of No Balance Billing (NBB) health care services. Hence, there is a compelling need to increase investment in health care through the adjustment of premium contributions in all membership categories.

II. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES

1. The annual premium contribution of members under the Overseas Workers Program shall be ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED PESOS (P1, 200.00) effective January 1, 2012 and TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED PESOS (P2,400.00) effective January 1, 2013.
2. During the transition year of CY 2012, the Corporation will accept initial payments of NINE HUNDRED PESOS (P900.00) as premium contributions from the departing existing and new OFW members of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP). This initial payment shall be applied as premium payment for the first nine (9) months of contributions only.
3. To ensure continuity of coverage and entitlements to NHIP benefits, the member or his/her representative must settle the balance of THREE HUNDRED PESOS (P300.00) to complete the annual premium of P1,200.00 on or before the renewal of membership coverage, regardless of possible gaps in payment, or shift in member