



Platform of Filipino Migrant Organizations in Europe

Paulus Potterstraat 20; 1071 DA Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Tel: 31-20-6646927 Fax: 31-20-6647093
Email: admin@platformweb.org. websit:e www.platformweb.org

Hon. Members
Bicameral Conference Committee
Philippine Congress
Metro- Manila
Philippines

December 12, 2002

Dear Senators and Representatives,

We have just celebrated the International Human Rights Day, December 10 and we will be celebrating the UN International Migrants' Day on December 18.

These are very significant days among migrants all over the world and in particular for Filipinos overseas in various countries, these are benchmark days in celebrating and reflecting on our human rights as migrants.

During these days, therefore, we urge all members of the Bicameral Conference Committee as well all the legislators of the 12th Congress to calendar and effect the immediate passage of the Absentee Bill.

15 years have passed since this right of suffrage has been guaranteed and mandated in our 1987 Constitution.

7 million overseas have been demanding the fulfillment of this fundamental right of suffrage. As part of the International Coalition for Overseas Filipinos' Voting Rights (ICOFVR) we look forward to the immediate legislation of the Absentee Voting Bill this Christmas 2002. PANA HON NA!

Yours sincerely,

Signed on behalf of the Platform of Filipino Migrant Organisations in Europe
Members of the Platform Council

Nonoi Hacbang Commission for Filipino Migrant Workers International Office, Amsterdam, The Netherlands- Debbie Valencia Kasapi-Hellas, Athens, Greece – Cesar Palad, Jeanna Altamirano Radio Pinoy Copenhagen, Denmark – Ruben Gerardo Filipino Community Norway (FCN) Oslo, Norway – Fr. Ruel Castaneda Centro Filipino Barcelona, Spain – Wads Wijnberg-Tiongson Federation of Filipino Organisations in the Netherlands (FFON) Den Haag, The Netherlands – Nely Tang Commission for Filipino Migrant Workers CFMW- Italia, Rome, Italy – Marilou Hardillo, Philippine Women's Forum Germany – Cecile Jimenez & Manuel Goyena Forum for Philippine Concerns Geneva, Switzerland – Weni Gamboa Tuluyang Pinoy Zurich, Sztitzerland – Nonoy Ty Philippine Seafarers' Assistance Programme (PSAP) Rotterdam, The Netherlands – Emma Bibal Malu Padilla Babaylan – Philippine Women's Network in Europe