

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REFERENDUM/ CONSULTATION OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS **HELD ON MAY 5, 2025**

Chairman George Erwin M. Garcia Commissioner Aimee P. Ferolino Commissioner Rey E. Bulay Commissioner Ernesto Ferdinand P. Maceda, Jr. Commissioner Nelson J. Celis Commissioner Maria Norina S. Tangaro-Casingal Commissioner Noli R. Pipo

XXX X X X0544. IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR ONLINE VOTING AND COUNTING SYSTEM PRE-VOTING ENROLLMENT FROM 07 MAY TO 10 MAY 2025

This pertains to the Urgent Memorandum dated 03 May 2025 of Director Ian Michel G. Geonanga, Office for Overseas Voting, relative to the request for approval to extend the deadline for OVCS Pre-Voting Enrollment from 07 May to 10 May 2025.

The Urgent Memorandum of Director Geonanga reads:

"Pursuant to the directive of Chairman George Erwin M. Garcia, the Office for Overseas Voting (OFOV) respectfully requests for the approval of the Commission En Banc to extend the deadline for the OVCS Pre-Voting-Enrollment from 07 May 2025 to 10 May 2025.

As of date, there are 134,474 overseas voters under OVCS Posts who have successfully enrolled into the system. Said number represents only 11.01% of the total registered overseas voters falling under OVCS Posts (1,220,942). Further, the OFOV has received multiple requests for an extension of the pre-voting enrollment period from Posts (as well as from MECO Taipei), and from various Filipino communities abroad as they raised their concerns in town hall meetings hosted by Posts.

In view of the foregoing, and with the hope of further increasing the number of enrolled overseas voters and in turn, increase voter turnout for online voting in connection with the 2025 National Elections overseas, the OFOV respectfully requests for approval of the following:

- 1. To extend the pre-voting enrollment period from 07 May 2025 to 10 May 2025, 11:59 PM (Philippine time).
- To create ten (10) additional OFOV user accounts (OFOV01 -OFOV10) for the OVCS admin portal, which would allow for faster and more efficient ways of approving pending enrollment applications and performing manual verification. This is in consideration of the expected influx of applications at or near the deadline, which will now become less than 2 days away from the close of voting (previously, it was at almost 5 days).

Should the foregoing requests be granted, the OFOV will immediately coordinate with the Information Technology Department for configuration of the EMS (for adjustment of the date and time of the pre-voting enrollment, and creation of additional user accounts).

Respectfully submitted for the approval of the honorable Commission En Banc."

The Commission, after due deliberation, RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVES, to APPROVE the following requests of the Office for Overseas Voting, relative to the extension of the deadline for the Online Voting and Counting System Pre-Voting Enrollment:

- 1. To extend the pre-voting enrollment period from 07 May 2025 to 10 May 2025, 11:59 PM (Philippine time).
- 2. To create ten (10) additional OFOV user accounts (OFOV01 OFOV10) for the OVCS admin portal, which would allow for faster and more efficient ways of approving pending enrollment applications and performing manual verification. This is in consideration of the expected influx of applications at or near the deadline, which will now become less than 2 days away from the close of voting (previously, it was at almost 5 days).

Let the Office for Overseas Voting implement this Resolution.

SO ORDERED.

GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA Chairman

AIMEE P. FEROLINO Commissioner

REY E. BULAY Commissioner

ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR. Commissioner

NELSON J. CELIS Commissioner

MARIA NORINA S. TANGARO-CASINGAL Commissioner

NOLI R. PIPO Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED by the Commission En Banc on May 5, 2025.

BUELO B. DIÓLA Director IV

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)85272987; email address comsec@comelec.gov.ph

Cc: Chairman
All Commissioners
Executive Director
Deputy Executive Director for Operations
Deputy Executive Director for Administration