

**September 19, 2003**

**COMELEC RESOLUTION NO. 6322  
IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING COMELEC RESOLUTION NO. 6117,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE RULES AND REGULATIONS  
IMPLEMENTING THE OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING ACT OF 2003"**

WHEREAS, the Commission on Elections promulgated on May 14, 2003 COMELEC Resolution No. 6117, otherwise known as "The Rules and Regulations Implementing the Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003";

WHEREAS, for the proper implementation of the Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003, there is a need to amend certain provisions of COMELEC Resolution No. 6117;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission on Elections, pursuant to the authority vested in it under the Constitution the Omnibus Election Code, Republic Act No. 9189 and other election laws, RESOLVES, as it hereby RESOLVES, to amend the following provisions of COMELEC Resolution No. 6117, to read as follows:

"ART. 3. Meaning of Words. — As used in these Rules:

xxx                      xxx                      xxx

r) Overseas Absentee Voter Registration Record refers to a machine-generated document showing the name, photograph, signature, fingerprints and other personal circumstances of a registered overseas absentee voter issued by the Commission upon approval of said voter's application to vote in absentia;"

"ART. 10. Period to file application for registration. — For purposes of the May 10, 2004 elections, all applications for registration as overseas absentee voters shall be filed from August 1, 2003 up to September 30, 2003." (as amended by COMELEC Resolution No. 6183, promulgated on 26 May 2003)

For succeeding elections, the Commission shall provide for the period within which applications to register must be filed;"

"ART. 11. Registration procedure. — a) For applications filed before the Philippine embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments — An applicant for registration shall:

- 1) personally appear before the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment having consular jurisdiction over the locality where he/she temporarily resides;
- 2) present his/her valid Philippine passport;
- 3) accomplish the prescribed application form; and
- 4) submit the accomplished application form with a photocopy of his/her passport.

(The application forms may be downloaded from the websites of the Commission and the DFA or secured from the Philippine embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments.)

In case of a qualified seafarer, he/she may file his/her application with the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment having consular jurisdiction over the locality where his/her vessel is docked during the registration period. In addition, a seafarer must also submit a photocopy of his/her Seaman's Book or any other document that will prove that he/she is a seafarer, as defined in Article 3 (v) of these Rules.

The DFA shall, through its foreign service post, verify the validity and authenticity of the passport and the correctness of the photocopies of the pages thereof submitted by the applicant. Upon confirmation of the passport's validity and authenticity, as well as the correctness of the photocopy, the representative of the Commission shall return the passport to the applicant and certify that the submitted photocopy is a true and correct copy of the original. The authenticated photocopy shall form part of the application for registration that the embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments shall transmit to the Commission through the Committee.

The representative of the Commission shall not issue the required certification to any applicant using a passport under an "assumed name".

If an applicant cannot present a valid passport for reasons other than its loss or temporarily unavailability, the applicant shall present substitute documents that the consular officer at the post shall require such as the applicant's expired passport, duly "authenticated birth certificate from the National Statistics Office, residence card, employment card/permit and local Identification Card issued by the host country. If the consular officer at the post finds the substitute documents valid and sufficient, it shall issue a certification that it has reviewed the submitted documents and found them sufficient to warrant the issuance of the passport. The applicant, if he or she chooses, may opt to apply for a new passport on the basis of the submitted documents, paying the appropriate fees therefor.

In case of lost of or the applicant's temporary inability to produce his her valid passport, the applicant shall execute and submit an authenticated affidavit sufficiently describing the lost or unavailable passport, attaching a copy of its relevant pages, if available; and stating the circumstances of the loss or the reason/s for the temporary inability to produce the passport: The consular officer at the post shall require the substitute documents mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph to establish the applicant's citizenship, immigration status and identity. In case of loss, the applicant may choose to secure a new passport, paying the appropriate fees therefor.

In case an applicant fails to submit the documentary requirements of this Article on the same day that he or she submitted the application for registration, he or she must personally submit the supporting documents on the day specified by the embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment concerned.

Once the applicant's citizenship, immigration status and identity have been established, the representative of the Commission shall:

- 1) encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant; and
- 2) digitally capture the applicant's photograph, signature, fingerprints and other demographic data, as may be required by the Commission;

The application process is deemed complete upon submission of the applicant's duly accomplished application form, supporting documents, including the certifications that the DFA may issue, and after the digital capture of his/her biometrics.

The embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment concerned shall, within five (5) days from completion of the registration process by an applicant, transmit by diplomatic pouch to the Commission, through the Committee, the following:

- 1) accomplished application form;
- 2) page of the passport containing the applicant's signature and photograph and in the case of seafarers, the page of the seaman's book containing the applicant's signature and photograph;
- 3) the certification required from the DFA;
- 4) the authenticated affidavit (for applicants with lost or temporarily unavailable passport); and
- 5) the compact disc containing the captured biometrics of the applicant

The Commission shall forward the application form and its supporting documents within three (3) day's from receipt thereof to the city/municipal Election Officers concerned through the fastest means available.

b) For applications filed before the Election Registration Board. — An applicant for registration shall:

- 1) personally appear before the Election Officer of the city/municipality where he/she is domiciled prior to his/her departure from the Philippines; or in case of a qualified seafarer, he/she may personally appear before the Committee,
- 2) present his/her valid Philippine passport;
- 3) accomplish the prescribed application form; and
- 4) submit the accomplished application form with photocopy of his/her passport; in case of a qualified seafarer, he/she must also submit a photocopy of his/her Seaman's book or any other document that will prove that he/she is a seafarer, as defined in Article 3 (v) of these Rules.

(The application forms may be downloaded from the websites of the Commission and the DFA or secured from the Commission or the Office of the Election Officer).

The Election Officer shall:

- 1) encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant; and
- 2) digitally capture the applicant's photograph, fingerprints and other demographic data as may be required by the Commission.

For applications filed before the Committee by qualified seafarers, the Committee shall:

- 1) encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant;
- 2) digitally capture the applicant's photograph, fingerprints and other demographic data as may be required by the Commission; and

3) forward the application form and its supporting documents within three (3) days from filing thereof to the city/municipal Election Officers concerned through the fastest means available.

c) In both cases. — The Election Officer shall, upon receipt of the applications, immediately:

- 1) Set the applications for hearing on a date, which shall be at least one (1) week from the date of posting of the notice of hearing;
- 2) Prepare the notice of hearing thereof;
- 3) Post the notice of hearing in a conspicuous place in the premises of the city or municipal and barangay building of the applicant's domicile as stated in the application form at least one (1) week before the date of the hearing;
- 4) Furnish copies of the applications to the designated representatives of political parties and accredited citizens' arms in the city or municipality. For this purpose, the heads of the six (6) major political parties as determined by the Commission in the immediately preceding national elections and each accredited citizen's arms shall submit to the Commission not later than July 31, 2003, the names of their respective representatives in each city or municipality; (as amended by COMELEC Resolution No. 6247, promulgated on 8 July 2003)
- 5) Verify whether the applicant is actually a resident of the address as appearing in his/her application for registration; and
- 6) Prepare a written report on the result of the verification and submit the same to the ERB.

d) Objections to the applications. — Any interested party may file a verified objection to the application on or before the date set for the hearing of the said application.

If an objection is filed, the Election Officer shall immediately notify the applicant or his/her authorized representative of the said objection personally or by registered mail, together with copies of the objection and the documents submitted in support thereof, if any. The applicant or his/her authorized representative shall, within five (5) days from receipt of the copy of the objection, file by registered mail an answer that clearly states his/her defenses and is duly sworn before any officer authorized to administer oath:

For this purpose, the date postmarked in the envelope containing the answer shall be considered as the date of the filing.

Once the answer is filed, or upon the lapse of the period for filing an answer, the Election Officer shall immediately forward the application to the ERB for decision.

The Election Officer shall likewise immediately forward the application to the ERB for decision if no objection was filed on the date of the hearing.

e) Hearings. — For purposes of the Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003, the ERB shall hear the applications once a month, provided, that the notice of hearing is posted at least a one (1) week before the date of hearing;

In connection with the May 10, 2004 elections, applications received as of 31 August 2003 shall be heard on 8 September 2003 and applications received as of 16 October 2003 shall be heard on October 24, 2003.

f) Period to approve or disapprove applications. — If no verified objection is filed and the applicant is qualified, the ERB shall approve the application. If no verified objection is filed but the applicant is not qualified, the ERB shall disapprove the application. In both cases, the ERB shall meet to approve or disapprove the applications within one (1) week from the date of the hearing;

In connection with the May 10, 2004 elections, the ERB shall meet to approve or disapprove the applications on (i) 15 September 2003, for applications for registration heard on 8 September 2003 and on (ii) 31 October 2003, for applications registration heard on 24 October 2003.

If a verified objection is filed, the ERB shall approve or disapprove the application at any time during the subsequent meeting(s) of the ERB but not later than November 8, 2003. The ERB shall base its decision on the merits of the objection, the answer, if any, and all other documents submitted by the objecting party and the applicant.

g) Notice of approval or disapproval of application. — Within three (3) days from the approval or disapproval of the application, the Election Officer shall send a notice of approval/disapproval to the applicant or his/her authorized representative by personal delivery or by registered mail. In addition, the Election Officer shall, on the day following the approval/disapproval of applications, post the list of the names of those whose applications have been approved/disapproved in conspicuous place in the premises of the city or municipal and barangay building of the applicant's residence as stated in the application form. On the same day, the Election Officer shall also transmit, through the fastest means available, to the Commission the list of the names of those whose applications have been approved/disapproved, the compact disc/s containing the capture biometrics of the applicants, the approved/disapproved application forms with its supporting documents, and the corresponding Certificate of Registration carrying the action of the ERB for each application.

After each meeting of the ERB for the approval/disapproval of applications for registration, the Election Officer shall also prepare a progress report for submission to the Registration Division of the Elections and Barangay Affairs Department (EBAD) of the Commission, which, in turn shall provide the Commission with a regular update of the data received. The progress report shall indicate the number of approved/disapproved applications; the names of the applicants with approved/disapproved applications and such other data as may be required by the Commission in the prescribed form."

"ART. 14. Manner, period and procedure for the filing of applications for certification as overseas absentee voter. — The manner, period and procedure for the filing of application for certification as overseas absentee voter shall be as follows:

a) For qualified Filipinos already abroad, with the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishments having consular jurisdiction over the locality where he/she temporarily resides; in case of qualified seafarers, with the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment having consular jurisdiction over the locality where his/her vessel is docked during the registration period.

b) For qualified Filipinos who will be abroad on election day, with the ERB of the city/municipality/district where he/she is domiciled prior to his/her departure from the Philippines, or with the Committee in case of qualified seafarers.

For purposes of the May 10, 2004 elections, all applications for certification shall be filed from August 1, 2003 up to September 30, 2003, (as amended by COMELEC Resolution No. 6183, promulgated on 26 May 2003)

For succeeding elections, the Commission shall provide for the period within which applications for certification must be filed.

a) For applications filed before the Philippine embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments — An applicant for certification as absentee voter shall:

- 1) personally appear before the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment having consular jurisdiction over the locality where he/she temporarily resides;
- 2) present his/her valid Philippine passport;
- 3) accomplish the prescribed application form; and
- 4) submit the accomplished application form with a photocopy of his/her passport.

(The application forms may be downloaded from the websites of the Commission and the DFA or secured from the Philippine embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments.)

In case of a qualified seafarer, he/she may file his/her application with the representative of the Commission at the Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment having consular jurisdiction over the locality where his/her vessel is docked during the registration period. In addition, a seafarer must also submit a photocopy of his/her Seaman's Book or any other document that will prove that he/she is a seafarer, as defined in Article 3 (v) of these Rules.

The DFA shall, through its foreign service post, verify the validity and authenticity of the passport and the correctness of the photocopies of the pages thereof submitted by the applicant. Upon confirmation of the passport's validity and authenticity, as well as the correctness of the photocopy, the representative of the Commission shall return the passport to the applicant and certify that the submitted photocopy is a true and correct copy of the original. The authenticated photocopy shall form part of the application for certification that the embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments shall transmit the Commission through the Committee.

If an applicant cannot present a valid passport for reasons other than its loss or temporarily unavailability, the applicant shall present substitute documents that the consular officer at the post shall require such as the applicant's expired passport, duly authenticated birth certificate from the National Statistics Office, residency card, employment card/permit and local identification Card issued by the host country. If the consular officer at the post finds the substitute documents valid and sufficient, it shall issue a certification that it has reviewed the submitted documents and found them sufficient to warrant the issuance of a passport. The applicant, if he or she chooses, may opt to apply for new passport on the basis of the submitted documents, paying the appropriate fees therefore.

The representative of the Commission shall not issue the required certification to any applicant using a passport under an "assumed name".

In case of loss of or the applicant's temporary inability to produce his/her valid passport, the applicant shall execute and submit an authenticated affidavit sufficiently describing the lost or unavailable passport, attaching a photocopy of its relevant pages, if available; and stating the circumstances of the loss or the reason/s for the temporary inability to produce the passport. The consular officer at the post shall require the substitute documents mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph to establish the applicant's citizenship, immigration status and identity. In case of loss, the applicant may choose to secure a new passport, paying the appropriate fees therefor.

In case an applicant fails to submit the documentary requirements of this Article on the same day that he or she submitted the application for certification, he or she must personally submit the supporting documents on the day specified by the embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment concerned.

Once the applicant's citizenship, immigration status and identity have been established, the representative of the Commission shall:

- 1) encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant; and
- 2) digitally capture the applicant's photograph, signature, fingerprints and other demographic data, as may be required by the Commission;

The application process is deemed complete upon submission of the applicant's duly accomplished form, supporting documents, including the certifications that the DFA may issue, and after the digital capture of his/her biometrics.

The embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment concerned shall, within five (5) days from completion of the registration process by an applicant, transmit by diplomatic pouch to the Commission through the Committee the following:

- 1) accomplished application form;
- 2) page of the passport containing the applicant's signature and photograph and in the case of seafarers, the page of the seaman's book containing the applicant's signature and photograph;
- 3) the certification required from the DFA;

- 4) the authenticated affidavit (for applicants with lost or temporarily unavailable passport); and
- 5) the compact disc containing the captured biometrics of the applicant.

The Committee shall forward the application form and its supporting documents within three (3) days from receipt thereof to the city/municipal Election Officers concerned through the fastest means available.

b) For applications filed before the Election Registration Board. — An applicant for registration shall:

- 1) personally appear before the Election Officer of the city/municipality where he/she is domiciled prior to his/her departure from the Philippines, or in case of a qualified seafarer, he/she may personally appear before the Committee;
- 2) present his/her valid Philippine passport; and
- 3) accomplish the prescribed application form; and
- 4) submit the accomplished application form with photocopy of his/her passport; in case of a qualified seafarer, he/she must also submit a photocopy of his/her Seaman's book or any other document that will prove that he/she is a seafarer, as defined in Article 3 (v) of these Rules.

(The application forms may be downloaded from the websites of the Commission and the DFA or secured from the Commission or the Office of the Election Officer.)

The Election Officer shall:

1. encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant; and
2. digitally capture the applicant's photograph, fingerprints and other demographic data, as may be required by the Commission.

For application filed before the Committee by qualified seafarers, the Committee shall:

- 1) encode the last name, first name and middle name of the applicant; and
- 2) digitally capture the applicant's photograph, fingerprints and other demographic data, as may be required by the Commission; and
- 3) forward the application form and its supporting documents within three (3) days from filing to the city/municipal Election Officers concerned through the fastest means available.

c) In both cases. — The Election Officer shall, upon receipt of the applications, immediately:

- 1) Furnish copies of the applications to the designated representatives of the six (6) major political parties as determined by the Commission in the immediately preceding national election and each accredited citizen's arms in the city or municipality;
- 2) Verify whether the applicant's name is included in the Computerized Voter's List (CVL) or whether his/her Voter Registration Record (VRR) is contained in the corresponding Book of Voters.
- 3) If the applicant is a registered voter, the ERB shall approve the application for certification. If not, the ERB shall disapprove the application.

In connection with the May 10, 2004 elections, the ERB shall meet to approve or disapprove the applications for certification received as of 31 August 2003 on 15 September 2003, and the applications for certification received as of 16 October 2003 on 31 October 2003.

- 4) On the day following the approval or disapproval of the applications for certification by the ERB, the Election Officer shall post the list of the names of those whose applications for certification have been approved or disapproved in a conspicuous place in the premises of the city or municipal and barangay building of the applicant's residence as stated in the application form. On the same day, the Election Officer shall also transmit, through the fastest means available, to the Commission the list of the names of those whose applications have been approved/disapproved, the compact disc/s containing the captured biometrics of the applicants, the approved/disapproved application forms with its supporting documents, and the corresponding Certificates of Registration carrying the action of the ERB for each application.

In addition, the Election Officer shall, within three (3) days from approval/disapproval of the application, send a notice of approval/disapproval to the applicant or to his/her authorized representative by registered mail or by any other faster means of communication.

- 5) In case of approval of the application, the Election Officer shall (i) make an annotation in the Computerized Voters' List (CVL) of the city/municipality and in the applicant's Voter Registration Record (VRR) that the said applicant has been registered as an Overseas Absentee Voter or will be voting as an Overseas Absentee Voter and (ii) issue a Certificate of Registration to the applicant.

After each meeting of the ERB for the approval/disapproval of the applications for certification, the Election Officer shall also prepare a progress report of submission to the Registration Division of the Elections and Barangay Affairs Department (EBAD) of the Commission, which, in turn, shall provide the Commission with a regular update of such data. The progress report shall indicate the number of approved/disapproved applications; the names of the applicants with approved/disapproved applications and such other data as may be required by the Commission in the prescribed form."

"ART. 19. Printing and distribution of Copies of the Overseas Absentee Voter Registration Record. — The Committee shall print and distribute the copies of the Overseas Absentee Voter Registration Record as follows:

- a) First copy to the Office of the Election Officer;
- b) Second copy of the Commission; and
- c) Third copy of the concerned Philippine embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishment.

The second copies for the Commission of the approved applications for registration/certifications shall be in the custody of the Registration Division of the Elections and Barangay Affairs Department (EBAD) of the Commission."

"ART. 21. Preparation of the National Registry of Absentee Voters and Transmission of Certificates of Registration to the Registered Overseas Absentee Voters. — The Committee shall prepare a National Registry of Absentee Voters by consolidating all the Municipal/City/District Registry of Absentee Voters not later than one hundred sixty-five (165) calendar days before the day of the elections.

The Commission shall, through the Committee, furnish copies of the National Registry of Absentee Voters to the designated representatives of the six (6) major political parties as determined by the Commission in the immediate preceding national elections and each accredited citizens' arm.

The Certificates of Registration issued by the ERB shall be transmitted by the Commission, through the Committee, to the registered overseas absentee voters within five (5) days from receipt thereof from the Office of the Election Officer.

For purposes of the May 10, 2004 elections, the National Registry of Absentee Voters shall be prepared not later than November 27, 2003."

"ART. 26. Issuance of Overseas Absentee Voter Identification Card. — The Commission, through the Committee, shall issue an Overseas Absentee Voter Identification Card to the registered overseas absentee voter whose application to vote in absentia has been approved within five (5) days from approval of his/her application to vote in absentia."

"ART. 31. Special Ballot Reception and Custody Group. — A special ballot Reception and Custody (the "SBRCG") is hereby created in every Philippine embassy, consulate or foreign service establishment. DaHSIT

The SBRCG shall be composed of three (3) members from among the staff of the embassies, consulates and foreign service establishments concerned, including their attached agencies, and citizens of the Philippines abroad who will be deputized by the Commission to receive and take custody of all accountable and non-accountable election forms, supplies and paraphernalia sent by it through the Committee.

The members of the SBRCG or their spouses shall not be related within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to any member of the same SBRCG or to any of the candidates for President, Vice-President and Senator or their spouses, and to any nominees for the party-list system of representation or their spouses.

Upon receipt of ballots, forms, supplies and paraphernalia, the SBRCG shall:

- a) Verify the received quantity and serial numbers of the ballots, other accountable forms to be used for personal voting and the quantity of non-accountable forms, supplies and paraphernalia; and
- b) Keep a complete record of the ballots and other accountable forms, subject to Article 106 of these Rules"

"ART. 36. Place of Voting. — In case of personal voting, the overseas absentee voter shall personally accomplish his/her ballot in the designated voting area within the embassy, consulate or other foreign service establishment that has jurisdiction over the country where he/she temporarily resides or at any polling place designated and accredited by the Commission; Provided, that the Commission shall, in the designation of other polling places, take into consideration the manpower and logistical requirements for the same and designate only those which are duly-accredited as foreign service establishment by the host country."

"ART. 39. Voting Procedure for Personal Voting. — The following procedure shall be observed for personal voting:

A. Preliminaries to the Voting

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B. Voting Proper

1) The voter shall approach the Poll Clerk of the SBEI and shall give his/her name and address together with other data concerning his/her person.

2) The Poll Clerk shall verify from the Certified List of Overseas Absentee Voters if the name of the voters is included therein. A voter whose name does not appear in the Certified List of Overseas Absentee Voters shall not be allowed to vote.

If the name of the voter is included in the Certified List of Overseas Absentee Voters, the Poll Clerk shall ascertain the identity of said voter by requiring him/her to present his/her Overseas Absentee Voter Identification Card and comparing the photo thumbprint and signature appearing therein with that of the photo, thumbprint and signature of said voter appearing in the Overseas Absentee Voter Registration Record contained in the Overseas Absentee Voting Book of Voters. In the absence of Overseas Absentee Voter Identification Card, the voter may present either his/her valid passport or any other the identification card issued by the host country."

"ART. 52. Counting Site. — The counting of votes shall be conducted on site in the country where the votes were actually cast. The opening of the specially-marked envelopes containing the ballots and the counting of votes shall be conducted within the premises of the embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments or in such other places as may be designated by the Commission; Provided, that the designated counting site has been duly accredited by the Commission as a polling place."

"ART. 53. Counting of votes to be public and without interruption. — After the termination of voting, the SBEI shall publicly count on site in the country where the votes were actually cast and ascertain the results. The Commission shall ensure that the start of counting in all polling place abroad shall be synchronized with the start of counting in the Philippines. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the SBEI shall not adjourn or postpone or delay the counting until it has been fully completed."

"ART. 60. Preparation of Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns and tally board. — The SBEIs shall prepare in their own handwriting the Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns and tally board simultaneously with the counting of the votes in

their respective polling places. The Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns shall be prepared in seven (7) copies.

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xxx.

The following procedures shall be observed after all the ballots have been read:

- a) The members of the SBEI shall close the entries by affixing their initials immediately after the last vote recorded or immediately after the name of the candidate and party-list candidates who did not receive any vote;
- b) The Poll Clerk and the Member-Secretary shall record the total number of votes obtained by each candidate and party-list candidates, in words and figures;
- c) The Members of the SBEI shall accomplish the certification portion of the Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns and tally board;
- d) The watchers if any, shall affix their signatures and imprint their right thumbmarks on the right hand portion of the Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns and the tally board; and
- e) The SBEI shall ensure that the entries on the first copy of the Overseas Absentee Voting Election Returns are clearly impressed on the other copies.
- f) The Chairman shall orally and publicly announce the total number of votes received by each candidate stating their corresponding offices, as well as the total number of votes received by a party, sectoral organization or coalition participation under the party-list system of representation.
- g) Thereafter, the SBEI shall fold each copy of the elections returns, sealed with a serially numbered paper seal, placed in its corresponding envelope, seal the same for distribution under Article 63 hereof."

"ART. 75. Place of canvassing. — The canvassing of votes shall be conducted on site in this country where the votes were actually cast. The votes shall be canvassed within the premises of the embassies, consulates and other foreign service establishments, or in such other places designated by the Commission Provided, that the designated place of canvass is duly-accredited as a foreign service establishment by the host country."

"ART. 84. The SBOC having consular jurisdiction over several countries. — The SBOC of a country having consular jurisdiction over several countries shall conduct the canvass on site in the country where the votes were actually cast and determine the results of the election separately per country and prepare the corresponding Overseas Absentee Voting Certificate of Canvass supported by an Overseas Absentee Voting Statement of Votes by Precinct."

"ART. 85. The SBOC of one country having several smaller territorial units. — The SBOC of one country having several smaller territorial units shall conduct the canvass on site in the country where the votes were actually cast and determine the results of the election of each territorial unit and prepare one (1) Overseas Absentee Voting Certificate of Canvass supported by an Overseas Absentee Voting Statement of Votes by Precinct."

"ART. 102. Prohibition against movement from official station. — No officer or member of the foreign service corps, including those belonging to attached agencies shall be transferred, promoted, extended, recalled or otherwise moved from his/her current post

or position one (1) year before and three (3) months after the day of elections, except upon approval of the Commission.

The Commission, through the Chairman of the Committee, shall immediately act on all requests for exemption from the above prohibition."

This Resolution shall take effect immediately after publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

The Education and Information Department of the Commission shall cause the publication and widest dissemination of these Rules and furnish copies hereof to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Transportation and Communication, Philippine Postal Corporation, Philippines Overseas Employment Administration, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, and Maritime Industry Authority.

(SGD.) BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR., Chairman  
(SGD.) LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO, Commissioner  
(SGD.) RUFINO S.B. JAVIER, Commissioner  
(SGD.) RALPH C. LANTION, Commissioner  
(SGD.) MEHOL K. SADAIN, Commissioner  
(SGD.) RESURRECCION Z. BORRA, Commissioner  
(SGD.) FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR., Commissioner