



Republika ng Pilipinas  
KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN  
*Department of Justice*  
Manila

MIG-DC-\_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 009

**SUBJECT : GRANTING VISA UPON ARRIVAL TO NATIONALS OF PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PROC NATIONALS),<sup>1</sup> AMENDING  
DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 041, DATED 15 AUGUST 2017**

**DATE : MAY 08 2019**

**WHEREAS**, Department Circular (D.C.) No. 041, dated 15 August 2017, prescribing the guidelines on the issuance of Temporary Visitor's Visa Upon Arrival (TV-VUA) to PROC nationals was issued pursuant to the mandate of the Bureau of Immigration (BI) under Commonwealth Act No. 613, otherwise known as the "Philippine Immigration Act of 1940," as amended, and other relevant laws;

**WHEREAS**, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) has requested for the amendment of D.C. No. 041 to include SBMA as one of the institutions that can endorse TV-VUA to Chinese nationals;

**WHEREAS**, the BI poses no objection to the request considering that the amendment will contribute to increasing the number of Chinese tourists in the Philippines and that the SBMA is the agency tasked to promote the Subic Bay Freeport Zone;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 13(b)(2) and (3) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7227,<sup>2</sup> as amended, otherwise known as the "Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992," it is within the mandate of SBMA to, among others, accept any local or foreign investment, business or enterprise; or undertake and regulate the establishment, operation and maintenance of services in the Subic Special Economic Zone, including shipping and related business and airport operations;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order (E.O.) No. 72, dated 18 December 2018, was issued amending E.O. No. 271 (s. 1995), governing the admission and stay of foreign nationals in the Subic Bay Freeport Zone as temporary visitors, which pertinently provides that SBMA, along with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), and the BI, shall jointly implement the said E.O. No. 72 and are thereby authorized

<sup>1</sup> Including Chinese nationals from Taiwan, as well as its Special Administrative Regions Hong Kong and Macau.

<sup>2</sup> An Act Accelerating the Conversion of Military Reservations into Other Productive Uses, Creating the Bases Conversion and Development Authority for the Purpose, Providing Funds Therefore and for Other Purposes.

to collect reasonable fees for the processing of no-visa entry and applications for visa waivers.

**WHEREFORE**, pursuant to the mandate of the BI under C.A. No. 613 and other relevant laws, Section 1(a)(1) of D.C. No. 041, dated 15 August 2017, is hereby amended, as follows:

**“Section 1. Scope and Coverage-**

- a. This Circular governs the issuance of TV-VUA to the PROC nationals:
  1. Foreign investors and businessmen/businesswomen duly endorsed by the Board of Investments (BOI), Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), local business councils, or local as well as foreign chambers of commerce and industry;”

All Department orders, circulars, and issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby amended and/or revoked accordingly. This Department Circular takes effect immediately upon approval and shall remain in force until further orders.

Send a copy of this Department Circular to the Office of National Administrative Register (ONAR) UP Law Center, Diliman, Quezon City.

  
**MENARDO I. GUEVARRA**  
Secretary 

Department of Justice  
CN: 0201905042

