



Philippines, New Zealand elevate ties to Comprehensive Partnership

Philippine Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro and New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs Winston Peters formally elevated Philippines-New Zealand relations to a Comprehensive Partnership

during their bilateral meeting on 21 July 2026. Marking a milestone in the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the Comprehensive Partnership reflects the growing depth and breadth of bilateral cooperation and establishes a framework for enhanced collaboration in political engagement, defence and security, trade and economic relations, and people-to-people exchanges.

[Read more](#)



Ambassador Azucena shares insights on ASEAN-PIF cooperation on disaster risk reduction and management to NZELTO scholars

Philippine Ambassador Kira Christianne D. Azucena, delivered a lecture on "Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: ASEAN and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)" to 47 scholars under the New Zealand English Language Training for Officials (NZELTO) Programme at Victoria University of Wellington on 09 July 2026.

[Read more](#)



Philippines and New Zealand sign a *Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Education*

The Philippines and New Zealand signed a Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Education, reaffirming their shared commitment to expanding cooperation in education and strengthening their people-to-people ties.

[Read more](#)

Other news



The Philippine Embassy in New Zealand wraps up its second Mobile Consular Mission in Auckland

The Philippine Embassy in New Zealand successfully concluded its two-day Mobile Consular Mission in Auckland on 18 - 19 July 2026 at Ellerslie Leisure Centre.

This mission brought passport services closer to members of the Filipino community in Auckland and nearby regions.

[Read more](#)

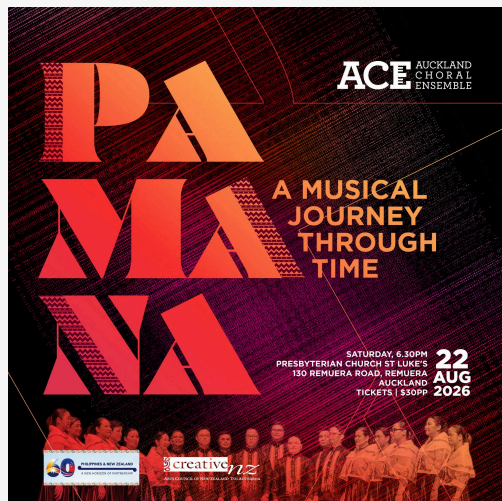
What's happening this August



Opening of Te Kokonga Filipiñana in Hastings

The Te Kokonga Filipiñana project is a collaborative partnership between the Philippine Embassy and the Filipino community in New Zealand to celebrate Philippine literature and culture and promote intercultural understanding through storytelling.

Recognizing the rich and diverse storytelling traditions of the Philippines, this initiative seeks to establish Filipiñana corners in libraries across New Zealand.



Pamana: A Musical Journey Through Time

This concert is a sincere tribute to the enduring relationship between the Philippines and New Zealand, commemorating 60 years of diplomatic ties established on 6 July 1966.

Through music, Pamana pays homage to our shared history, celebrates the richness of cultural heritage, and highlights the profound connections that

have evolved over generations. This concert serves not only as a remembrance of our origins but also as a hopeful testament to unity, friendship, and a future built together by both nations.



Sacred Tides: Songs through the seasons of hope

Presented by the Bulwagan Foundation, this special event forms part of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Philippines-New Zealand diplomatic relations.

The concert is scheduled to take place on 08 August 2026 at 7:00PM at the Wesley Methodist Church, 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington.



Meet and Greet the Ambassador in Taranaki

The Philippine Embassy in New Zealand warmly invites the Filipino community in Taranaki to a Meet-and-Greet with Ambassador Kira Christianne D. Azucena

at 4:30 p.m. to 6.00 pm
on Saturday, 15 August 2026,
at The Devon hotel, 390 Devon street east, New Plymouth

To confirm your attendance, please complete the registration form:
<https://forms.gle/DAMzCT2CYawhptwPA>

For further inquiries, you may email cultural@philembassy.org.nz.

Marami pong salamat!



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*Please visit the Embassy Facebook and Instagram accounts for
the latest updates on these events.*

ASEAN Corner

This is your go-to spot for fascinating tidbits about ASEAN and the Philippines' Chairship of ASEAN in 2026!



What is the ARF Manila Plan of Action? The ARF Manila Plan of Action (2026-2036), adopted during the 33rd ASEAN Regional Forum with the Philippines as Chair, charts the course for regional cooperation on political and security issues of common interest and concern in the Indo-Pacific over the next decade.

As a timely and responsive strategic framework, it will guide the ASEAN Regional Forum's work through enhanced dialogue, confidence-building measures, and preventive diplomacy to address evolving security challenges and promote regional peace and stability.

[Know more](#)

Overseas Voting Bulletin



Philippine Embassy in New Zealand conducts second RERB Hearing to review applications for overseas voting registration, certification and recapture

The Philippine Embassy in Wellington, New Zealand, Resident Election Registration Board (RERB) convened on 22 July 2026 at Sentro Rizal, 50 Hobson Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, for its second RERB Hearing.

[Click here](#)

Consular 101

This is your one-stop hub for important updates, helpful tips, and everything you need to know about the Embassy's consular services.



Question 1: Can a Filipino spouse remarry if their alien spouse obtained a divorce abroad?

Answer: Yes, a Filipino spouse can remarry under Philippine law if their alien spouse validly obtained a divorce abroad. However, the foreign divorce must first be judicially recognized by a Philippine court. The court's decision confirming the validity of the divorce will serve as the legal basis for the annotation of civil registry documents, giving the Filipino spouse the legal capacity to remarry.

Question 2: What is the process for judicial recognition of a foreign divorce in the Philippines?

Answer: File a civil action at a Regional Trial Court (RTC) in the Philippines to confirm or enforce the foreign divorce decree.

Once the RTC issues a decision, it must be registered at the Local Civil Registry Office (LCRO) where the RTC is located.

If the marriage was registered overseas, present the registered RTC decision to the City Civil Registry Office in Manila (CCRO Manila).

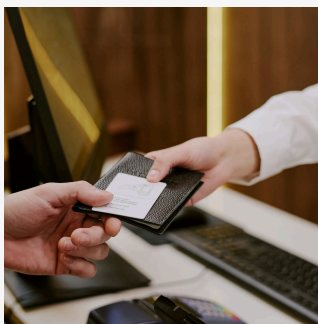
Submit the necessary documents, including the foreign judgment or order, the RTC Certificate of Finality, and the Certificate of Registration from the LCRO, for annotation of the civil registry record.

Finally, submit the annotated documents and requirements to the Office of the Civil Registrar-General (OCRG) in Manila for final processing.

Question 3: Are there additional requirements for foreign documents used in this process?

Answer: Yes. All official documents obtained abroad, such as the foreign divorce decree, must be apostillized by the competent authority in the issuing country (e.g., New Zealand). This ensures that the documents have legal effect in the Philippines. Without the apostille, the documents may not be accepted by Philippine authorities.

Consular services



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