



PRESS RELEASE

12 January 2021

PAFIOO NOMINATION EXTENDED UNTIL 31 MAY 2021

The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) extends the deadline of submission of nominations for the Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organization Overseas (PAFIOO) from 31 December 2020 to **31 May 2021**.

This is in consideration of the on-going COVID-19 global pandemic, which has afflicted countries across the globe and restricted mobility of people, as well as the requests of some Filipino communities overseas and diaspora organizations. The CFO is fully aware that the priorities of the countries right now, including the Philippine diplomatic posts, is in protecting the health and welfare of the people, and providing assistance to those afflicted with and affected by the disease. These valid concerns prompted the CFO-Awards Secretariat headed by Justice Francisco P. Acosta, to extend the nomination period to give a chance to qualified overseas Filipinos to participate, especially those OF health workers and other frontliners who sacrificed a lot in helping fight this pandemic.

The PAFIOO is a biennial search to honor and recognize overseas Filipinos and other individuals or organizations who contribute to Philippine development initiatives, or promote the interests of overseas Filipino communities. The awards are also given to overseas Filipinos who have exceptionally distinguished themselves in their work or profession, and have thereby brought pride to the Filipino nation. A distinct category in the awards is also reserved for foreign individuals or organizations, for their exceptional contributions to the Philippines and for advancing the cause of overseas Filipino communities.

Since its inception in 1991, the awards have already been bestowed upon 485 individuals and organizations overseas based in 52 countries and territories.

Interested overseas Filipinos and the public must first submit their nomination documents to the Philippine Embassy or Consulate General that has jurisdiction over the place of residence/operation of the nominee, as the CFO-Awards Secretariat may only receive nominations endorsed by their respective Philippine diplomatic posts.

Endorsed nomination documents must be received by the CFO – Presidential Awards Secretariat on or before, or postmarked no later than 31 May 2021 to qualify for the screening by the Awards Committees. The Awarding Ceremony is tentatively scheduled in December 2021.

For more information and updates regarding the PAFIOO visit www.presidentialawards.cfo.gov.ph and Like and/or Subscribe to the Gawad ng Pangulo Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/gawadpangulo/>. The Awards Secretariat may be also reached through e-mail: presidentialawards.cfo@gmail.com for any inquiries and clarifications related to the awards.

