



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS

2023 HAJJ ADVISORY

BPE No. 021-2023

May 9, 2023

Subject:

**NEW CHARGES ON THE MUTAWIFF FEES IMPOSED
BY THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**



The public is hereby advised of the new charges imposed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the amount of **TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR AND THREE TENTHS (SAR234.3)** in relation to the *Mutawiff* (Hajj) Fees broken down as follows:

Modified Ground Fees	SAR 174.50
Electronic Services Fees	<u>59.8</u>
TOTAL	SAR 234.30

The above charges (SAR174.50 and SAR59.80) were made known to the Commission only on April 17 and May 5, 2023 Friday, respectively.

As the payment of *Mutawiff* Fees from the registered intending pilgrims have already concluded, the Commission is exerting all efforts to clarify the new charges with the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah (MOHU) through the Embassy of Saudi Arabia and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).¹ Additionally, the Chief of Staff Atty. Manggay S. Guro, Jr. will be departing for the Kingdom on May 10, 2023, on behalf of Secretary Guiling A. Mamondiong and the Commission, to personally confer with the MOHU and other pertinent agencies/offices in Saudi Arabia to resolve the matter including the possibility of having the said additional charges waived by the Ministry.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


TAHIR S. LIDASAN, JR., CESO II
Executive Director



¹ See attached Letter to the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah through the Embassy of Saudi Arabia and the Department of Foreign Affairs.



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS

H.E. DR. TAWFIQ BIN FAWZAN AL-RABIAH

Minister

Ministry of Hajj and Umrah
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

THRU : H.E. DR. BADR M. ALSOLAMI
Director General
General Administration of Hajj Affairs Offices

H.E. DR. HISHAM SULTAN AL ZAFIR AL QAHTANI
Ambassador to the Philippines
Embassy of Saudi Arabia

SUBJECT : NEW CHARGES IN THE MUTAWIFF FEES

DATE : May 8, 2023

His Excellency,

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh!

This has reference to the new charges which recently appeared on the electronic track for the Philippines representing *Emergency/Camp Fees* and *Electronic Services Fees* in the amounts of One Hundred Seventy-Four and Five Tenths (SAR174.50) and Fifty-Nine and Eight Tenths (SAR59.80), respectively, for a total of Two Hundred Thirty-Four and Three Tenths (SAR234.30).

Please note that the new charges which appeared on the electronic track which was made known to our agency only on April 17 and May 5, 2023 came about AFTER the payment of *Mutawiff Fees* by the intending pilgrims. Thus, collecting anew is not only burdensome for the Commission but ultimately, for our Filipino pilgrims the majority of which are poor and either used their lifetime earnings or are sponsored by charitable individuals to perform Hajj.

In this regard, the Commission—through the undersigned—respectfully requests for clarification on the above charges with earnest request that the same be waived by the Kingdom in favor of its brothers and sisters in the Islamic faith coming from the Philippines.

In the interest of time, we are hoping for *Your Excellency's* consideration and magnanimity.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,


GUILINA A. MAMONDIONG
Secretary



05/08/23
Delfin E. Fuentes



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS

ENRIQUE A. MANALO

Secretary

Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)
2330 Roxas Boulevard,
Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
IT, COMMUNICATIONS AND
REGISTRATION

08 MAY 2023
BY: _____
TIME: _____
CRD: _____

**SUBJECT : TRANSMITTAL OF LETTER TO THE MINISTRY OF HAJJ
AND UMRAH NEW CHARGES IN THE MUTAWIFF FEES**

DATE : May 8, 2023

Dear *Secretary Manalo*,

GREETINGS OF PEACE!

We write in reference to the new charges in the *Mutawiff Fees* in the amount of Two Hundred Thirty-Four and Three Tenths (SAR234.30)—an increase which was made known to the Commission only on April 17 and May 5, 2023 through the electronic track/portal.

Please note this new imposition came about AFTER the registered intending pilgrims have already paid their *Mutawiff Fees*. Considering its timing and the amount charged, we are afraid that it would be too difficult for our intending Filipino pilgrims to pay for the said charges.

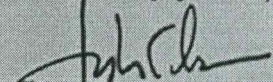
In this regard, the Commission—through the undersigned—intends to confer with the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah to request for clarification regarding the above charges and to request waiver thereof by the Kingdom.

Considering that time is of essence since the Hajj season is just around the corner, **we respectfully request for the attached Letter dated May 8, 2023 addressed to the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah (MOHU) to be facilitated by the Honorable Department.**

Hoping for your prompt action on this urgent matter.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,


TAHIR S. LIDASAN, JR., CESO II
Executive Director

