

Table of Contents

	Page
Glossary of Terms	1
Summary	3
1. Introduction	5
2. National context	6
2.1 Social Security System (SSS)	6
2.2 Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth)	6
2.3 Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs)	7
2.4 Social Security Coverage of OFWs in Host Countries	9
3. Coverage of overseas Filipino workers under the current SSS and PhilHealth systems	10
3.1 SSS Coverage of OFWs	10
3.1.1 Collection of the SSS contributions from OFWs	10
3.1.2 Transfer of SSS contributions from collecting agents	11
3.1.3 Recording contributions made by OFWs	11
3.1.4 Facilities for inquiring on contributions	11
3.1.5 IT support	11
3.1.6 SSS' future plans for expanding collection network	12
3.2 PhilHealth's present payment and collection process, infrastructure, future plans	12
3.2.1 Collection of OFWs Philhealth contributions	12
3.2.2 Transfer of contributions from collecting agents	13
3.2.3 Recording contributions made by OFWs	13
3.2.4 Facilities for inquiring on contributions paid	13
3.2.5 IT support	14
3.2.6 Future plans	14
3.3 Concluding Remarks	14
4. Existing electronic money remittance facilities	16
4.1 Remittance channels	16
4.2 Mobile phone usage by OFWs	16
4.3 Mobile payments: general descriptions	17
4.3.1 Mobile payment services offered by telecommunications companies	18
4.3.2 Mobile payment services offered by banks	19
4.4 Cost analysis of mobile payments	20
4.5 New developments in mobile payments	22
4.5.1 Case study 1: Globe	22
4.5.2 Case study 2: Smart	22
5. Feasibility of mobile applications for collecting social security contributions	24
5.1 Mechanism of mobile applications for collecting contributions	24
5.1.1 Enroll as merchants with the providers of the services	24
5.1.2 Maintain settlement accounts in a bank	24
5.1.3 Enhance customer services on members' inquiries	24

5.2 Implications for the migrant workers	25
5.3 Electronic money: Expanding the options for social security coverage	26
5.3.1. Payment by proxy	26
5.3.2. Payment via internet and mobile banking services	26
5.4 Conclusions	26
Bibliography	31

List of Tables

Table 1.	Stock estimate of overseas Filipinos as of December 2006	7
Table 2.	Deployment of overseas Filipino workers, 2005 and 2006	8
Table 3.	Remittance charges of i-remit in selected locations, 2007	8
Table 4.	Remittance channels used by OFWs, 2005 and 2006	13
Table 5.	Deployment of OFWs in top ten destinations, 2005 and 2006	16
Table 6.	Presence of Philippine banks in top ten OFW destinations	17
Table 7.	GLOBE and SMART presence in top ten OFW destinations	18
Table 8.	Comparative remittance fees, 2004	21

Exchange rates, October 2007

	Foreign currency 1 USD =	Philippine Peso 1 unit of Foreign currency =
US Dollar		41.66- 41.87
Singapore Dollar	1.46	28.57-28.66
Hongkong Dollar	7.76	5.4-5.42
Taiwan Dollar	32.59	1.28
Malaysian Ringgit	3.75	13.59
Bahraini Dinar	0.38	116.16

List of acronyms

ILO	International Labour Organization
ISSA	International Social Security Association
OFW	Overseas Filipino Worker
PhilHealth	Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
POEA	Philippine Overseas Employment Administration
SMS	Short Message Service
SSS	Social Security System