



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
**EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**  
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**EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF  
THE SIXTH (6<sup>TH</sup>) JOINT REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING,  
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION, SERIES OF 2014,  
*IchiKawa Hall, OSHC Bldg. Agham cor. North Ave, Quezon City  
Wednesday, 08 October 2014 at 12:00 NN***

**BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 14-10-32**

***Revising the Conditions for the Compensability of Deafness under Annex A of the Amended Rules on Employees' Compensation***

**WHEREAS**, Article 167 (l) of Presidential Decree 626, as amended, partly provides: "... the Commission is empowered to determine and approve occupational diseases and work-related illness that may be considered compensable based on peculiar hazards of employment."

**WHEREAS**, Article 167 (c) empowers this Commission to approve rules and regulations governing the processing of claims;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the policy of the Commission for the continuous upgrading of the benefit structure for workers through the updating of the conditions for the compensability of occupational and work-related diseases under Annex A of the amended rules on Employees Compensation;

**WHEREAS**, on February 25, 2011, this Commission issued through Board Resolution no 11-12-09 creating a Technical Review Panel to review the conditions for compensability of occupational and work-related diseases under Annex A of the amended rules on Employees Compensation;

**WHEREAS**, the Technical Review Panel (TRP), composed of medical experts and leaders of medical professional groups and medical specialty societies, medical officers representing government and medical evaluators of the Systems after a series of meetings has recommended the updating of the conditions for compensability of Deafness.

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendments on the conditions for compensability of Deafness was presented to a tripartite consultation meeting composed of representatives from the Regional Tripartite Industrial Council (Region 14-A), Government Service Insurance System, Social Security System, Bureau of Working Conditions, Occupational Safety and Health Center, Philippine College of Occupational Medicine (PCOM), Philippine Government Employees Association (PGEA), Chamber of Mines, Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP) and Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation (PSPC) to further review the proposed amendments;

**WHEREAS**, the representatives of the tripartite group after due deliberations recommended the approval and adoption by the Commission of the amendments on the conditions for compensability of Deafness which is now termed Occupational Hearing Loss;

**NOW THEREFORE, ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED,**

This Commission **RESOLVES AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to revise the following conditions for compensability of Deafness under Annex A of the Amended Rules on Employees Compensation;

Nature of Employment

4. Deafness

*Any industrial operation having excessive noise particularly in the higher frequencies*

The revised conditions for compensability of Deafness shall now read as follows:

Nature of Employment  
Nature of Employment

**"4. Occupational Hearing Loss**

- a. Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) is characterized as progressive sensorineural hearing loss that is usually bilateral, permanent/irreversible and affecting the 3000 to 6000 Hz level but commonly affects and is worst at the 4000 Hz level.

Exposure in the workplace to harmful noise levels in the higher frequencies



Contingencies wherein direct damage to the eardrum or inner ear are caused by the working activity

b. Acoustic Trauma results in a conductive or mixed type of hearing loss Exposure in the workplace to sudden burst of sound such as an explosive blast

c. Physical Trauma can present as mixed type of hearing loss Physical trauma sustained at work such as but not limited to motor vehicle accidents, blunt head trauma, falls, explosions, burns from caustic chemicals, open flames or welder's slag that enter the ear canal

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that copies of this Resolution be duly furnished the SSS and GSIS for their compliance and proper guidance.

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that this Resolution shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

**APPROVED** in the Quezon City, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014.

  
**CIRIACO A. LAGUNZAD III**

*Chairperson-Alternate  
Department of Labor and Employment*

  
**AGNES E. SAN JOSE**

*Member-Designate  
Social Security System*

  
**DIONISIO C. EBDANE, JR.**

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**MIGUEL B. VARELA**

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*Member-Designate*  
*Philippine Health Insurance Corporation*

*R. Martinez*  
**ROBERT S. MARTINEZ**  
*Member-Designate*  
*Civil Service Commission*

*Stella*  
**STELLA ZIPAGAN-BANAWIS**  
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