

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
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GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO.

Series of 2018

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo R. Duterte on 18 January 2018 announced that a deployment ban for Kuwait is being considered by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines because of the abuses and maltreatment of Filipino workers;

WHEREAS, under Section 6 of the implementing rules of Republic Act 10022, the POEA Governing Board, after consultation with the DFA, may, at any time, terminate or impose a ban on the deployment of migrant workers;

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) after consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) issued Administrative Order No. 25, Series of 2018 dated 19 January 2018 directing the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) to suspend the processing of Overseas Employment Certificates (OEC) for deployment in Kuwait pending the investigation of the cause of deaths of the following Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) in Kuwait, namely: Liezl Truz Hukdong, Vanessa Karissha L. Esguerra, Maria Fe Saliling Librada, Arlene Castillo Manzano, Devine Riche Encarnacion, Patrick Sunga and Mira Luna Juntilla;

WHEREAS, on 12 February 2018, pursuant to the directive of the President of the Philippines, the DOLE Secretary further issued Administrative Order No. 54, Workers to Kuwait in pursuit of national interest and with the advent of the series of reports involving abuse and death of OFWs in Kuwait and the most recent is that of Joanna Daniela Demafelis, a domestic worker;

WHEREAS, on 14 February 2018, DOLE issued Administrative Order No. 54-A, Series of 2018 providing guidelines on the deployment ban pursuant to Administrative Order No. 54, Series of 2018;

WHEREAS, the POEA issued Governing Board Resolution (GBR) No. 1, Series of 2018 on 14 February 2018 adopting the abovementioned DOLE Administrative Orders and effecting a deployment ban for newly-hired Filipino workers for overseas employment in Kuwait. The ban does not include balik-manggagawa/returning Filipino workers and seafarers transiting through or boarding in Kuwait to join their principals;

WHEREAS, in the letter dated 03 May 2018 of the Department of Foreign Affairs cited the case of J. Antonio Carpio vs. the Executive Secretary, et. al. (G.R. No. 96409 February 14, 1992) which pronounced the fundamentally accepted principle in

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Constitutional Law that the President has control of all executive departments, bureaus, and offices;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the pronouncement of the President of the Philippines on 13 May 2018 on the lifting of the deployment ban, the DOLE issued Administrative Orders No. 254 and 254-A, both Series of 2018 lifting the deployment ban for newlyhired Filipino workers bound for Kuwait as a result of the Agreement on Employment of Domestic Workers with the State of Kuwait signed by Secretary Alan Peter S. Cayetano, and the normalization of ties with the said country;

NOW THEREFORE, the POEA Governing Board in a meeting duly convened, **RESOLVES AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to lift the deployment ban in Kuwait and resume the processing and deployment thereto of all newly-hired Filipino workers to include professionals, seafarers, skilled, semi-skilled and domestic workers.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the POEA is directed to issue the appropriate Guidelines prior to the processing and deployment of domestic workers.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the POEA and the concerned Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) shall revert to the system in processing of Balik-Manggagawa workers prior to the issuance of GBR No. 1, Series of 2018 and POEA Advisory No. 8, Series of 2018.

For immediate compliance.

Done in the City of Manila this **215** day of May 2018.

Secretary of Labor and Employment and Charperson of the POEA Governing Board

BERNARD P. OLALIA

Administrator and

Vice-Chairperson of the POEA Governing Board

ESTRELITA E. HIZON

ALEXANDER E. ASUNC

Dept. of Labor & Employment Office of the Secretary

Member

FELIX M. OCA Member

CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED

BY CRD ON.