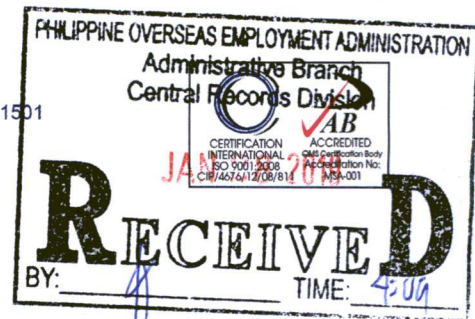




Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
BFO Building, Ortigas Avenue cor. EDSA, Mandaluyong City 1501
Website: www.poea.gov.ph E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph
Hotlines: 722-1144, 722-1155



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 01
Series of 2019

TO : ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : Clarification on the Deployment of Returning Workers to the Iraqi Kurdistan Region

Relative to the issuance of POEA Governing Board Resolution No. 06, Series of 2018 under the selective Balik-Manggagawa (BM) Exemption Program proposed by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), the following clarification is hereby issued:

1. The suspension on the processing and deployment of new hires to Iraq is still in effect;
2. The travel ban to the no-go zones covering the northern half of Iraq (Salahuddin, Nineveh and Kirkuk) is also still in effect; and
3. Deployment of all returning workers/balik-manggagawa to the Iraqi Kurdistan Region is allowed given that the Region remains under Alert Level 2.

The following are the requirements in the processing of returning workers/balik-manggagawa to the Iraqi Kurdistan Region:

- a. Passport valid at least six (6) months from date of intended return to jobsite;
- b. Valid work visa or equivalent document;
- c. Certificate of Exemption issued by the Philippine Embassy in Baghdad;
- d. Employment contract providing among others, the exact address/location of jobsite; telephone number and email address of the employer (A verified employment contract is required for tourist turned worker and for those worker who changed employer);
- e. Certificate of employment indicating the period of employment with the company; and
- f. Undertaking from the employer on the following:
 - i. protection and safety of the worker;
 - ii. that the worker will not be deployed/ assigned to identified *no-go* zones;
 - iii. to report to the Philippine Embassy and/ or Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) significant incidents affecting the employment, safety and welfare of the worker; and
 - iv. immediate evacuation/ repatriation of the workers as may be warranted

For strict compliance.


BERNARD P. OLALIA
Administrator

22 January 2019

CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED
BY CRD ON 28 JAN 2019