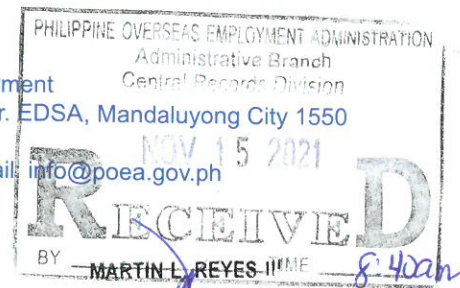




**Philippine
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**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 25
Series of 2021**

TO : ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : **Guidelines in the Processing and Deployment of Returning Workers (Balik-Manggagawa) to Iraq based on Governing Board Resolution No. 09, Series of 2021**

Pursuant to POEA Governing Board Resolution No. 09, Series of 2021, which grants exemption to returning workers or *balik-manggagawa* (BMs) from the existing deployment ban of Overseas Filipino Workers bound for Iraq previously established by POEA Governing Board Resolution No. 02, Series of 2020, the following clarificatory guidelines are hereby issued for the processing and deployment of returning workers (Balik-Manggagawa) to Iraq:

- A. **Coverage.** These Guidelines cover the processing and issuance of Overseas Employment Certificates (OECs) to the following types of returning workers or *balik-manggagawa* (BMs) bound for Iraq:
1. Returning workers or *balik-manggagawa* (BMs) who have existing valid employment contracts and who are returning to their employers to finish the unexpired portion of their contracts;
 2. BMs whose contracts were extended or renewed onsite; and
 3. BMs who are being rehired by their former employer.
- B. **"No-Go" Zones.** The processing and deployment of qualified *balik-manggagawa* (BM) to the following "*no-go*" zones identified by the Philippine government shall not be allowed:
1. The Provinces of Anbar, Nineveh, Kirkuk and Mosul
 2. Sadr City, Baghdad Province
 3. Amedi, Erbil Province
 4. Mahkmour, Erbil Province
- C. **Requirement for Balik-Manggagawa Processing.** The following documents shall be required among qualified BMs returning to Iraq:
1. Passport valid for at least six (6) months from the date of intended departure;
 2. Valid and appropriate visa and/or work permit;
 3. Proof of worker's recent stay in Iraq (e.g. proof of departure from Iraq or proof of billing);



4. Proof of existing employment with the current employer to which the worker is resuming employment such as current certificate of employment, valid company ID or recent pay slip;
5. Certificate of exemption from deployment ban issued by the Philippine Embassy in Iraq (for those returning workers who are still in Iraq when POEA GBR No. 09, Series of 2021 was issued). The Philippine Embassy may wish to authenticate the employment contract of this returning workers;
6. Employment Contract authenticated by the Philippine Embassy in Iraq (for those returning workers who are currently in the Philippines when POEA GBR No. 09, Series of 2021 was issued). The Philippine Embassy may wish to issue a Certificate of Exemption from the existing deployment ban to this returning workers;
7. Undertaking signed by the employer guaranteeing secured work premises in Iraq; and
8. Undertaking signed by the employer guaranteeing financial sponsorship and facilitation of the repatriation of the OFW from Iraq covering both airfare and visa penalties, if any.

This Circular shall be effective immediately.



BERNARD P. OLALIA
Administrator

03 November 2021
Arnel/bmpd

CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED
BY ORD ON NOV 15 2021