

## PRESS RELEASE

January 6, 2006

# 67 recruitment agencies lost license

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has stricken off 67 recruiters from its roster of licensed recruitment agencies even as it issued fewer new licenses in 2005.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said that consistent with the POEA's "hard to enter, easy to go policy", there was a 17 percent decrease in the number new license issued last year and more agencies penalized for recruitment violations. Similarly, there was a sharp decline in the number of licenses renewed from 468 in 2004 to only 64 in 2005, representing a huge 86 percent decline.

The POEA is strictly implementing the rules on the acceptance of applications for license that only applications with complete requirement or supporting documents shall be received . Baldoz said that the system is also in line with the streamlining of existing licensing procedures for eventual ISO certification.

Baldoz noted that 312 licenses were suspended due to recruitment violations, failure to replenish garnished bonds, failure to increase capita and failure to increase escrow deposits.

The POEA also revoked or cancelled the license of 76 agencies due to recruitment violations. At present, there are 1,363 licensed agencies in good standing - 1,028 for landbased and 335 for seabased.

##