

Republic of the Philippines Department of Labor and Employment BFO Building, Ortigas Avenue cor. EDSA, Mandaluyong City 1501

Administration Website: www.poea.gov.ph E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph Hotlines: 722-1144, 722-1155



NEWS RELEASE August 31, 2006

Baldoz says albeit test leakage, Filipino nurses still the best

POEA Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz believes the leakage in the recent licensure examinations for nurses may have tainted the credibility of Filipino nurses but said it will not significantly affect their chances of being employed abroad.

Baldoz said the unfortunate incident is an isolated one and it will not prejudice the chances for good employment of our qualified nurses who have become the much sought after healthcare workers in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, North America and Africa.

"Our nurses are still the top choice of foreign hospitals because of the quality of our nursing education which is considered at par with their counterparts in Canada, Japan, the United States, and Australia," said Baldoz.

Baldoz said our nurses' four years of education, consisting of classroom work and laboratory technologies, clinical internship, community immersion, have adequately equipped our nurses with the technical and clinical expertise required of the job. The Philippine nursing education is patterned after the US curriculum.

The administrator considers passing the local nursing licensure examination is not the sole gauge for determining the capability of Filipino nurses.

"Employers have their own hiring policies and nurse applicants have to undergo a battery of examinations and interviews before they can qualify for entry and employment in other countries," Baldoz said.

In the United States, Filipino nurses are required to take another qualifying exam by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS). The commission is a non-profit organization and recognized as the leader in the education, registration and licensure of migrating healthcare professionals.

Baldoz said passing the employers' and the host countries' requirements is the real test that the Filipino nurses have to hurdle. Their academic training has adequately prepared them to pass those tests and interviews with high passing rate.

"But above all, it is their caring and tender loving attitude that make them the number one choice by employers," Baldoz added.