NEWS RELEASE

February 23, 2007

OFWs warned on recruiters for Canada, Korea

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration yesterday warned Filipinos already working overseas to be wary of   Canada-based employment agencies, which targets them in their recruitment activities.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz identified Canadian Career Caregiver Services as one company that lures OFWs in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai and Korea to apply as caregivers in Canada. The company promises direct deployment to Canada without the workers going back to the Philippines.

Baldoz expressed apprehension that this method of recruitment in a third country may result to breach of contracts of OFWs with their present employers.

Canadian Career Caregiver Services was scheduled to have a separate two-day recruitment of Filipino workers in Taipei, Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai and Seoul.

Baldoz said Canadian Career Caregiver Services is not accredited to any local recruitment agency and it is not registered with POEA as a foreign principal or employer.

"Recruitment activities done outside our territorial jurisdiction is not covered by Philippine laws on recruitment so I advise applicants to be careful in dealing with these foreign placement agencies", Baldoz said.

The POEA also warns the public of the alleged illegal recruitment activities of the wife of an OFW who promise jobs as factory workers in Korea.

Administrator Baldoz identified the suspect as Rowena Aggarao, wife of a factory worker working in Korea under the Employment Permit System (EPS). Some thirty victims of Aggarao went to the POEA to report her illegal activities.

The victims said Aggarao promised them speedy processing of documents at the POEA and assured employment in exchange of huge placement fees.

A case against Aggarao is now with the Department of Justice awaiting resolution of preliminary investigation. The Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Korea is also investigating her husband who denied involvement in her wife's illegal activities.