



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Deployment ban to Lebanon and Nigeria partially lifted**

DOLE Secretary Arturo D. Brion, yesterday announced the partial lifting of the ban on deployment of overseas Filipino workers to Lebanon and Nigeria.

Brion said the deployment of OFWs to Lebanon will be limited to three categories of Filipino workers.

Under the partial lifting, non-household service workers, or those working in hotels and other similar establishments, whether new hires or returning workers will now be allowed to leave.

Returning household service workers will also be allowed but shall be subjected to the policy reforms on household service workers.

Newly hired household service workers will also be limited to those who are hired by employers duly endorsed by the Philippine Overseas Labor Offices including members of the family of heads of state/government ministers, deputy ministers and other senior government officials of the host country and members of diplomatic corps and duly recognized international organizations. These employers of HSW are required to comply with the HSW policy reforms.

The partial lifting of the ban of deployment to Nigeria will only allow the processing and deployment of returning Filipino workers who are on vacation and are going to work with the same employer and work site in Nigeria. OFWs with new contract are not allowed to leave.

Brion explained the decision to partially lift the ban was in light of the improved security conditions in both countries. He added that the Department is still waiting for the full assessment report from the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Special Task Force on Lebanon to determine the appropriateness of completely lifting the ban.

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