



## **NEWS RELEASE**

January 29, 2008

### **POEA-CIDG team arrests recruiter of Filipino fishermen**

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration's anti-illegal recruitment team recently arrested a suspected illegal recruiter of fishermen for Taiwan and Mauritius.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz identified the suspect as Alejo Salome who was arrested by the combined team of POEA's Anti-illegal Recruitment Branch and PNP's Criminal Investigation and Detection Division pursuant to a warrant of arrest issued by Honorable Judge Manuel C. Luna, Jr. of RTC Calapan City Branch 39.

Alejo Salome is said to be associated with a certain Antonio Chua, the alleged recruiter of Filipino fishermen who took hostage the officers of a Taiwanese fishing vessel. Chua was also a subject of the warrant of arrest.

Efren Gutierrez, one of the alleged victims of Salome sought the assistance of the POEA for the arrest of the suspects. Gutierrez alleged that Salome recruited him to work as a fisherman in Mauritius.

Salome was arrested in his residence at Payatas, Quezon City and was temporarily detained at CIDG-CIDG Camp Crame Quezon City for verification of possible cases to be filed against him.

The suspect was presented to Vice-President Noli De Castro. Most of the victims of Salome and Chua were residents of Mindoro, the home province of the Vice-President.

Baldoz said Salome may be of help to the police in getting leads for the arrest of Chua who was reported to had already flown to Taiwan. ###

