



NEWS RELEASE

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POEA launches e-payment system for recruitment agencies

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration is set to pilot test an electronic payment system before the end of the month according to Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz.

Baldoz said the e-payment system, as part of the POEA's continuing process improvement to better serve the OFWs, will be implemented in partnership with leading banking institutions like the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBPO) and Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP).

The e-Payment system which offers a 24/7 facility will enable recruitment and manning agencies to pay processing fees, OWWA membership fee, and Philhealth premium contributions of recruited and hired OFWs and seafarers through the internet. The payment system will complement the e-Submit program, the electronic submission of contract details which has been in place since 2003.

"This is a hassle-free procedure that will no longer require agency representatives to come to POEA to pay the required fees for the workers," Baldoz said.

The POEA e-payment system was already approved by the Government Electronic Payment and Collection System Evaluation Team (GEPCSET) headed by Finance Undersecretary Gil Beltran.

Baldoz said the POEA was the first government agency to submit a request for approval of an e-payment facility to GEPCSET.

"GEPCSET was so upbeat about the POEA e-payment system that it has already informed Congress and CICT about the project", Baldoz added.

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