



**Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration**

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

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

NEWS RELEASE

May 22, 2008

POEA anti-illegal recruitment group arrests 36 suspects

The combined POEA-PNP-CIDG task force on illegal recruitment has arrested 36 suspected illegal recruiters during the first three months of 2008 according to Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz.

Baldoz said most prominent was the arrest of the officers and staff of Vacation Travel, Inc. and Summit Marketing. The POEA task force arrested Sherly P. de Asis, Ligaya R. Chong, Randy M. Carbonella a.k.a. Joshua Moreno, Lysander B. Aldea, and Dolores Moreno a.k.a. Mae Conde in an entrapment operation. The travel agency promised their victims employment in Macau using the “tourist-worker scheme” where workers leave the country as tourists but are actually seeking employment abroad.

The task force also arrested Alejo T. Salome, the recruiter of Filipino fishermen who took hostage the master of the Taiwanese fishing vessel in Mauritius. Salome, in cohorts with Antonio Chua used the “direct hire scheme” in the recruitment of the fishermen. In “direct hiring” the recruiter convinces applicants that they will be hired by the foreign employer without going through the POEA process. The workers are mostly deployed either as tourists or through other illegal means.

Baldoz said the task force also stopped the operation of a group of suspected illegal recruiters promising employment to caregivers supposedly for Norway using the name of JASIA International Manpower Services, Inc., a licensed recruitment agency. The POEA-PNP task force arrested in an entrapment operation Lolita Trinidad Bartolome, Terencia Acelo Tagsa Analyn Sta Ana Madiola, Ronilio Argawanon Lawan, Vilma Blancaflor Asma, Laila Eduria Flores, Mercedita Gemino Flores, Irma Arevalo Abella, Reynaldo Rodriguez Basio and Leo Seniorio Castario.

Baldoz advises job applicants to be wary of the modus operandi of illegal recruiters and apply only with recruitment agencies with a valid license from the POEA. ###