



**News Advisory
July 30, 2009**

No deployment of Filipino entertainers to Turkey

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration cautions female job applicants against accepting offers of employment as entertainers in Turkey.

Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said the POEA is not processing employment documents of overseas performing artists (OPAs) to Turkey and the Department of Labor and Employment is not keen on allowing their deployment due to lack of established protective and monitoring mechanisms.

DOLE Secretary Marianito D. Roque said deployment of OPAs shall be allowed only in the presence of a bilateral agreement between the Philippines and Turkey to assure protection of Filipino workers in that country.

Earlier, some groups of OPAs were able to work in a nightclub in Turkey even without proper documentation by the POEA or DFA. The entertainers worked for a few months but later filed complaints of abuse against their employer, and were subsequently repatriated by the Philippine Embassy.

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