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## MOBILE BALIKMANGAGAWA PROCESSING IN PANGASINAN, ILOCOS NORTE

Good news for returning workers. The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration announced today that its Regional Center for Luzon will provide mobile processing services for overseas Filipino workers who are on home leave or more popurlarly known as balikmanggagawa in designated areas in Luzon.

Starting September 2010, returning workers may process their overseas employment certificates in the following venues and schedules: DOLE Field Office in Rosales, Pangasinan located at Barangay Zone 4 every Friday; Provincial Capitol at Laoag, Ilocos Norte every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, located at the Provincial Auditorium. Meanwhile, the One-Stop Processing Center at the DOLE Dagupan Field Office will continue to process returning workers every Wednesday of the week.

POEA Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said that the move to decentralize its processing services is in line with its continuing efforts to bring OFW services closer to the areas where workers live or stay. It also expects to reduce the big crowds that come to its Main Office in Mandaluyong to avail themselves of OEC processing services, particularly during the peak season.

Manalili emphasized that the identified processing centers will also serve the adjoining provinces of Rosales, Pangasinan, and Laoag City, Ilocos Norte. She also clarified that all regional offices and extension units of the POEA located in various parts of the country undertake processing of balikmanggagawa.

Vacationing workers are reminded to bring their valid original passport, valid re-entry visa, work permit or any equivalent document, and latest E-receipt or Official Receipts of OWWA and Philhealth as proof of payment. ###