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## **POEA stops collection of Pag-ibig fees**

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) clarified today that it has suspended the collection of PAG-IBIG membership fees from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) as directed by the Vice President and Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDC) Chair Jejomar Binay.

Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said that POEA is set to meet with PAG-IBIG immediately to conduct further studies and consultations on this issue and discuss a more facilitative mechanism to implement the coverage of workers under the Fund.

In the meantime, pursuant to Republic Act 9679 making PAG-IBIG membership among OFWs compulsory, all OFWs can pay their contributions directly through any PAG-IBIG office nationwide.

POEA also said that required insurance coverage for OFWs as provided under Republic Act 10022 will be implemented only after the Insurance Commission issues its guidelines on the matter.

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