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News Release 22 May 2014

## POEA stops deployment of new OFWs to Thailand

The Governing Board of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration yesterday suspended the processing and deployment of newly-hired Filipino workers bound for Thailand.

In the resolution, the POEA Board allowed only the processing and deployment of returning OFWs with existing contracts after the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) raised the crisis level in the Kingdom to Alert Level 2.

The DFA issued Alert Level 2 (Restriction Phase) in view of the declaration of Martial Law by Thailand's army due to the escalating civil and political unrest and insecurity in the country.

DOLE Acting Secretary Rebecca C. Chato, POEA officer-in-charge Amuerfina R. Reyes, and board members Felix M. Oca, Estrelita S. Hizon, Alexander E. Asuncion and Milagros Isabel A. Cristobal signed the resolution.

Filipinos in Thailand are advised to be vigilant, avoid public places, and stay in their houses as much as possible. END