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 Advisory 27 December 2017

## Qatar bans tobacco related products

Overseas Filipino workers and other passengers entering the State of Qatar will be subject to legal liability if found in possession of banned tobacco derivatives, equipment, and other materials in relation to tobacco usage.

The Embassy of Qatar in the Philippines identified the banned items as follows:

- 1. Chewing tobacco in any form
- 2. Electronic cigarette, electronic shisha, and any product similar to it or made in any form of tobacco
- 3. *Swaika* (substance made from tobacco products and that can be taken by absorption, chewing or inhalation)
- 4. Cigarette machines
- 5. Advertising, promotion, or sponsorship materials that seek to introduce any tobacco product

Qatar's Law No. 10 of 2016 on the Control of Tobacco and its Derivatives stipulates strict measures to curb the import and use of tobacco products. Those found violating the relevant articles face imprisonment not exceeding six months and fines not exceeding QR100,000.

OFWs are advised to be wary of these prohibitions and should never attempt to carry any of these banned products when travelling to Qatar. /END