

NEWS ADVISORY  
31 May 2017

## **POEA celebrates Migrant Workers Day with week-long activities**

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has lined up a week-long activities to celebrate this year's Migrant Workers' Day.

The celebration commences with the regular Monday flag raising ceremony on June 5 with Ellen A. Sana, Executive Director of Center for Migrant Advocacy (CMA) as the guest speaker. Ms. Sana will also introduce to the public a book on Philippine migration. TESDA will conduct skills demonstration on Bread and Pastry Making NCII and Barista NCII. They will also provide free massage therapy, manicure and pedicure to interested clients. A Zumba Dance Contest among overseas Filipino workers visiting the POEA follows.

The 3-day *ASEAN Regional Workshop On Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking in Persons for Labor Exploitation* opens on June 6. The workshop aims to provide a platform for discussion of the labor dimensions of trafficking in persons and to examine how investigation and prosecution of labor trafficking could be enhanced to protect migrant workers from exploitation.

Overseas Filipino workers and other clients going to the POEA office in Mandaluyong City will experience a festive atmosphere on June 7 as private sector partners volunteered to provide food, entertainment, and raffle prizes for their enjoyment. This year's donors include BDO, BPI, Metrobank, Landbank, SSS, HDMF-Pag-ibig, PhilHealth, Western Union, Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), Confederation of Licensed Agencies Deploying HSWs (CLADS), and Philippine Association of Service Exporters, Inc. (PASEI).

Also on June 7, the Bagong Bayani Foundation, of which DOLE Secretary Sivestre H. Bello III is the Honorary Chairperson, will launch the search for candidates for the Bagong Bayani Awards 2018. POEA will also operationalize the queuing system for the One-Stop Service Center for OFWs (OSSCO).

On June 9, the POEA, in partnership with the International Labor organization and SM Supermall-SM Global Pinoy, is conducting a summit meeting on anti-illegal recruitment.

The AIR Summit of 2017 will be held in two (2) parts with different venues: Part 1 at the Auditorium of the Mall of Asia Arena Annex (MAAX), Coral Way corner J.W. Diokno Boulevard, Mall of Asia Complex, Pasay City and Part 2 the Tanghalang Manuel Conde, Cultural Center of the Philippines, CPP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

The POEA has invited some 200 members of law enforcement and prosecution offices, local government units, international organizations, recruitment industry associations, non-government organizations, workers' organizations, and the civil society, including the media.

The AIR Summit aims to discuss prevalent and new issues on illegal recruitment and agree with concrete recommendations from all stakeholders present during the summit.

The POEA will introduce to the summit participants the following anti-illegal recruitment projects:

- a. National Illegal Recruitment Case Monitoring System (NIRCMS)
- b. Online Trafficking-in-Persons Blacklist Database
- c. Illegal Recruitment and Trafficking in Persons (IRTIP) Priority Targets List
- d. Anti-Illegal Recruitment Video
- e. POEA Online Complaint and Legal Counselling Facility

In the afternoon at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the International Labor Organization will lead the launching of the *“Study on International Recruitment in the Philippines to Determine Intervention Areas for the Fair Project”*. The Summit ends with the showing of *“Sunday Beauty Queen”*, a documentary on Filipina domestic workers' self-empowerment through beauty pageants in Hong Kong. /END