

News Release
4 December 2019

POEA intensifies fight vs illegal recruitment

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration continues to demonstrate sustained efforts of combatting illegal recruitment and trafficking in persons with its preventive and remedial measures of ensuring protection and safety of OFWs and their families.

POEA Administrator said that POEA together with its partner agencies and local government units is more aggressive in its conduct of round-up information and capacity enhancement activities to the local areas with high incidence of illegal recruitment activities, such as in the provinces of Sarangani, Maguindanao and other remote areas in Mindanao.

As preventive actions, the POEA conduct anti-illegal recruitment seminars among law enforcers, official of local government units including barangays, high school students and youth organizations. Every AIR seminar culminates with the signing of memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the local government unit or private organization on cooperative efforts to prevent local recruitment in their area of concern.

The POEA also conducts surveillance and special operations on establishments suspected to have been engaged in illegal recruitment activities.

The POEA provides legal assistance to victims of illegal recruitment and assists in the prosecution of filed cases.

The administrator also said the POEA is moving towards a more active social media presence and engagement to disseminate information on legal recruitment process and further strengthen its monitoring and deterrence of illegal recruitment schemes.

“Despite our significant efforts of eliminating illegal recruitment and trafficking, there are still a lot of unscrupulous recruiters and syndicates that proliferate in social media. This is why we always advice Filipino overseas jobseekers to always validate the authenticity of job offers with the POEA to avoid being victimized by illegal recruiters,” Olalia said.

POEA have also partnered with the Department of Education to bring the issue of illegal recruitment to the K-12 graduates who have been identified as among the potential victims of illegal recruitment schemes. /END