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## POEA recognized as one of top FOI implementing agencies

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has been cited for being one of the top requested and performing agencies in the eFOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) and for its exceptional and significant contribution to the Freedom of Information Program's progress and development.

Deputy Administrator Jocelyn T. Sanchez received on behalf of the administration its FOI award as one of the top agencies from the Presidential Communications Operations office (PCOO) in a ceremony held on December 12, 2019 at The Peninsula Manila in Makati City.

The PCOO has been giving the award every year to acknowledge government offices and other private organizations that have made significant contribution in affording citizens their right to access public information.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed Executive Order No. 02, also known as the Freedom of Information (FOI) Program, on 23 July 2016. The Executive Order established the first Freedom of Information (FOI) Program in the Philippines covering all government offices under the Executive Branch. It requires all executive departments, agencies, bureaus, and offices to disclose public records, contracts, transactions, and any information requested by a member of the public, except for matters affecting national security and other information that falls under the inventory of exceptions.

The POEA is one of the government's busiest frontline service agencies catering mostly to overseas Filipino workers, recruitment and manning agencies and researchers involved in the study of migrant workers.

Among its functions is to document overseas Filipino workers through its various processing units and collect relevant administrative statistics.

Aside from the FOI portal, the POEA receives queries through its Public Assistance and Information Center, 24/7 hotlines 8722-1144 and 8722-1155, and email address info@poea.gov.ph. /END