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NEWS RELEASE

October 22, 2020

POEA adopts federal minimum wage standard in certain US territories

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has adopted the federal minimum wage standard in the United States of America, which applies to all Filipino workers in certain territories.

In an advisory, the POEA said the federal minimum wage standard, which is US\$7.25 per hour or US\$1,256.70 per month, will apply to all workers whether agency-hired, direct-hired, or returning workers in US bases/installations in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Diego Garcia.

All recruitment agencies deploying in the said territories, and seeking for initial accreditation, or for renewal of accreditation, must adhere to the said minimum wage standard.

For job order requests that are pending with Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) and POEA prior to the issuance of advisory, the POEA may adopt a minimum wage of not less than US\$1,000 per month.

The said minimum standard was adopted notwithstanding the exemptions provided in the Sections 206, 207, 211, and 212 of the US Fair Labor Standards Act.

The move was also made without prejudice to the provisions of the Filipino National Employment Manual provided by the U.S laws and U.S Department of Defense regulations for Filipino nationals directly hired in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.###