

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 247, July 24, 1987]

**REORGANIZING THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT
ADMINISTRATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 5 (1986), provides that the necessary and proper changes in the organizational and functional structures of the government, its agencies and instrumentalities need to be effected to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of public services;

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to institute changes in the functional structure of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration in order to enhance its effectiveness in responding to changing market and economic conditions and to the call of the national development plan for the strengthening of the worker protection and regulation components of the overseas employment program; and,

WHEREAS, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has to systematize its operation by rationalizing its functions, structure and organization to make it more efficient in undertaking its principal function of formulating and implementing a systematic program for promoting and monitoring the overseas employment of Filipino workers and for protecting their rights to fair and equitable employment practices, and in order that it may respond more effectively to the new demands for more meaningful welfare services to workers, better protection of their rights, more efficient adjudication of cases and more efficient manpower delivery system.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the sovereign will of the Filipino people and the Constitution, do hereby order:

Section 1. Title. This Executive Order shall otherwise be known as the Reorganization Act of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration.

Section 2. Reorganization. The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration hereinafter referred to as the Administration is hereby reorganized, structurally and functionally in accordance with the provisions of the Executive Order.

Section 3. Powers and Functions. In the pursuit of its mandate, the Administration shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Regulate private sector participation in the recruitment and overseas placement of workers by setting up a licensing and registration system;
- (b) Formulate and implement, in coordination with appropriate entities concerned, when necessary, a system for promoting and monitoring the overseas employment of Filipino workers

taking into consideration their welfare and the domestic manpower requirements;

- (c) Protect the rights of Filipino workers for overseas employment to fair and equitable recruitment and employment practices and ensure their welfare;
- (d) Exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction to hear and decide all claims arising out of an employer-employee relationship or by virtue of the any law or contract involving Filipino workers for overseas employment including the disciplinary cases; and all pre-employment cases which are administrative in character involving or arising out of violation of requirement laws, rules and regulations including money claims arising therefrom, or violation of the conditions for issuance of license or authority to recruit workers.

All prohibited recruitment activities and practices which are penal in character as enumerated and defined under and by virtue of existing laws, shall be prosecuted in the regular courts in close coordination with the appropriate Departments and agencies concerned;

- (e) Maintain a registry of skills for overseas placement;
- (f) Recruit and place workers to service the requirements for trained and competent Filipino workers by foreign governments and their instrumentalities and such other employers as public interest may require;
- (g) Promote the development of skills and careful selection of Filipino workers for overseas employment;
- (h) Undertake overseas market development activities for placement of Filipino workers;
- (i) Secure the best terms and conditions of employment of Filipino contract workers and ensure compliance therewith;
- (j) Promote and protect the well-being of Filipino workers overseas;
- (k) Develop and implement programs for the effective monitoring of returning contract workers, promoting their re-training and re-employment or their smooth re-integration into the mainstream of national economy in coordination with other government agencies;
- (l) Institute a system for ensuring fair and speedy disposition of cases involving violation of recruitment rules and regulations as well as violation of terms and conditions of overseas employment;
- (m) Establish a system for speedy and efficient enforcement of