



Dasuguan ng Pilipinas

سفارة الفلبين

Embassy of the Philippines

KUWAIT

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REGIONAL SUMMIT OF FILIPINOS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

The Philippine Embassy wishes to inform the Filipino Community in Kuwait, that the Middle East and African Network of Filipino Diaspora (MEANFiD) will be holding a Regional Summit of Filipinos in the Middle East and Africa on 26-27 February 2016 (Friday & Saturday) at the Desert Palm Hotel, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The Summit is being initiated by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) and the MEANFiD which is composed of Filipino associations and community leaders in the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region.

The Global Summits in Manila in 2011, 2013 & 2015 and Regional Summits in Europe in 2012 & 2015, facilitated by the CFO, are among the most significant gatherings of Filipino community leaders from various countries designed to strengthen linkages and encourage networking across the Filipino diaspora groups. With the theme "**Engaging Overseas Filipinos in the Philippine Development**," the Regional Summit in the Middle East has the following objectives:

1. To provide a forum for MEA-based Filipino organizations/associations to discuss Overseas Filipinos' current conditions, issues and concerns, prospects for socio-economic and political reintegration in the Philippines, and learn best practices from similar migrants groups in other regions;
2. To discuss the support services and programs of the Philippine Government and how their respective organizations can assist in Philippine development efforts through resource and knowledge transfers and investment in viable enterprises in the motherland;
3. To forge partnerships and linkages between and among Filipino migrant organizations; and
4. To facilitate the establishment of a network of Filipino communities and organizations in the MEA region through expansion of the umbrella organization, MEANFiD.

In this regard, Filipino organizations and migrants in the State of Kuwait are encouraged to attend the Regional Summit.

The workshops in the summit will be composed of panel presentations and open forum focusing on the following thematic topics such as: (1) Responding to Psycho-

social Challenges of Migration in MEA; (2) Building Capacities of Migrants, Their Families and Their Communities; (3) Investment, Business and Livelihood Opportunities; and (4) Return and Reintegration of OFs.

Kindly note that the first day of the conference (26 February 2016) will be devoted to meetings of the current and prospective members of MEANFiD. The agenda includes the following:

- a. Finalization of the MEANFiD's membership and structure (Country representatives); and
- b. MEANFiD Workplan and areas of cooperation.

For more information, please access the official website of the Regional Summit at <http://www.regionalsummit.cfo.gov.ph/>

You may also contact Ms. Kris Domagas and Mr. Manny Tibe at the following numbers: (+632) 5524726 and (+632) 5524735 or email addresses: kdomagas@sfo.gov.ph and mtibe@cfo.gov.ph.

Thank you very much.



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Ambassador