



PRESS RELEASE

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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State of Kuwait

PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN COOPERATION WITH KUWAIT GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO REPATRIATE MORE OVERSEAS FILIPINOS

10 March 2019 – The Philippine Embassy in Kuwait has announced today that it has successfully repatriated a group of forty-four (44) undocumented OFW last 07 March 2019. The said repatriates are part of the Embassy's Assisted Repatriation Program for distressed overseas Filipinos, a joint program of the Embassy and both the Illegal Residency Monitoring and Immigration Departments of Kuwait's Ministry of Interior. The Program aims to repatriate overseas Filipinos who were charged with absconding/expired visa cases at the Immigration Department, without having to be detained.



Undocumented OFWs who availed the Embassy's Assisted Repatriation Program for distressed overseas Filipinos.

"Nagpapasalamat po ako sa ngalan ng aking mga kasamahan dito, sa lahat ng mga opisyal ng Embahada ng Pilipinas dito sa Kuwait, na mula simula ay tinulungan at inalayan kami para makauwi kami sa Pilipinas para makasama ang mga mahal namin sa buhay," said OFW Laura Belandres. OFW Belandres was among the 44 overseas Filipinos who were repatriated that evening.



During the orientation and briefing of OFWs at the Philippine Embassy shortly before their repatriation.

Forty-four (44) OFWs were also repatriated on 13 February 2019 through the Embassy's facility.

"The Kuwait government has been very supportive of the Embassy's assisted repatriation program for distressed overseas Filipinos. For that I am very grateful, I would also like to thank the indefatigable Officer and staff of the Philippine Embassy for their commitment and dedication in making this program successful." Chargé d' Affaires, a.i. Mohd. Noordin Pendosina N. Lomondot said in a statement.

Since January 2019 until present, the Embassy has also assisted in the medical repatriation of a total of seven (7) OFWs, with different medical conditions, to join their family and loved ones in the Philippines.

The medical repatriates were aided and monitored by Embassy's Assistance to Nationals Unit - Medical Response Team (ATNU-MRT).

"We would like to thank the Illegal Residency Monitoring and Immigration Departments of Kuwait's Ministry of Interior for the assistance they have provided the Embassy in making such repatriations successful." said and Third Secretary and Vice Consul Charleson C. Hermosura



Medical repatriation by the Embassy's ATN Team of OFW Leonardo Santos Alumno.

Two (2) of the seven (7) medical repatriates also had travel bans who were assisted and checked by Embassy's ATN Unit. Their cases were then resolved and the travel bans were subsequently lifted after the Embassy, in coordination with DFA's Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs (OUMWA), made all necessary representations to provide them assistance. **END**