

PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR ASSUMES POST IN ATHENS



Ambassador Meynardo LB. Montealegre

Philippine Ambassador to Greece and Cyprus H.E. Meynardo Los Banos Montealegre arrived in Athens on 28 September 2011.

His Excellency presented his letter of credence to H.E. President Karolos Papoulias of the Hellenic Republic on 15 November 2011.

Ambassador Montealegre joined the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1990.

He has been assigned to the Philippine foreign missions in Vienna, Austria from 2006-2008, in New York,

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Filcom in Athens Celebrates "Paskong Pinoy 2011"

The Filipino community and the Philippine Embassy celebrated 'Paskong Pinoy 2011' at the Danaos Theater in Central Athens on Sunday, 11 December 2011. The celebration was attended by more than 500 Filipinos from all over Greece, many of whom are members of the Accredited Community Partners (ACP). The ACP is composed of community leaders and individuals who partner with the Philippine Embassy in many community events, programs and activities. This year's celebration revolved around the theme "Pag-asa: Ang Diwa ng Pasko sa Gresya," extolling hope, optimism, fortitude and the spirit of unity

and cooperation among the Filipinos in Greece amidst the economic difficulties obtaining in the country.

In his message to the Filipino community, Philippine Ambassador to Greece Meynardo LB. Montealegre, commended the leaders of the ACP for choosing a relevant and timely theme. Despite the economic difficulties, he said, the Filipinos in Greece remain optimistic and are ready to be one with fellow Filipinos in the true spirit of Christmas. The Ambassador reiterated the readiness of the Embassy to assist them in their needs.

(Continued on page 2)



Ambassador Meynardo LB. Montealegre presents his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Philippines to His Excellency Mr. Karolos Papoulias, President of the Hellenic Republic on 15 November 2011 at the Presidential Palace, Athens, Greece. ■



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING
MANILA

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION TO ALL FILIPINO CITIZENS

All citizens of the Philippines abroad, not otherwise disqualified by law, at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the election, and who are registered overseas absentee voters with approved application to vote in absentia, may vote for Senators and Party-List Representatives.

For purposes of the May 13, 2013 elections, the filing of applications for registration/certification and transfer of registration records shall be filed at the Post or other designated registration areas from November 02, 2011 to October 31, 2012.

The 30-day voting period will commence on **April 13, 2013 until 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon (Philippine time) of May 13, 2013** at any Philippine embassies or consulates.

For details, email, call or visit:

The Philippine Embassy in Athens, Greece
Tel. No. 30 210 672 1883 / 210 672 1837 /
Email: athenspe@otenet.gr / philippineembassy@philembathens.gr

DFA-OAV Secretariat (Manila)
<http://www.dfa.gov.ph>
Hotlines: +6328330914, +6328328363

COMELEC-COAV (Manila):
<http://www.comelec.gov.ph>
Hotlines: +6325222251, +6325212952,
+6325239924

ATHENS PE UNVEILS DR. RIZAL'S BUST



Ambassador Montealegre and Embassy personnel together with the Filipino community members during the unveiling of Dr. Rizal's bust at the Embassy premises.

The Philippine Embassy in Athens together with the Filipino community representatives unveiled the bust of Dr. Jose Rizal at the Embassy grounds to

commemorate the 115th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Dr. Jose P. Rizal on 30 December 2011.

The unveiling ceremony was led by Ambassador Meynardo LB. Montealegre with members of the Filipino community in Athens and the staff members of the Embassy. The unveiling was preceded by a flag raising ceremony followed by Panunumpa ng Katapatan sa Watawat.

Expounding on this year's theme "Rizal: Haligi ng Bayan," Ambassador Montealegre encouraged the members of the Filipino community to be always

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He also invited the members of the Filipino community to encourage their fellow Filipinos to register for the Overseas Absentee Voting and to invite their Greek friends to visit the Philippines to enjoy the many beautiful tourist destinations and explore trade and investment opportunities in the country.

The day-long celebration was full of fun and presentations from various community groups, starting off with a fitting enactment of the Nativity. Contests were

held for the "Best Christmas Lantern (parol)," and "Best Group Presentation". Contestants showcased their creative talents in making parols out of recycled materials like empty bottle water containers, newspapers, magazines, empty beer cans and garlic peelings, among others, as well as their talents in singing and dancing during the group presentations. Raffle draws, and gift-giving to Filipino children also marked the day. The finale was a heart-warming rendition of Sa Araw ng Pasko participated in

by representatives of various groups in a warm gesture of unity, cooperation and sharing to mark the spirit of Christmas in Greece.

Filipino groups in Greece include: the ACP, CFC Kids for Christ, KASAPI, DIWATA, Ang Munting Nayon, VISMMAG, Bagong Kapwako Pilipino in Athens Organization, Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc., Filipino Community Academy Institute Association, Triskelion Athens, and KAPHILCA-PSG, among others.

Paskong Pinoy 2011



ATHENS PE COMMENCES OAV REGISTRATION



Mr. Engilbert A. Briones submits to biometric capture.

The Philippine Embassy in Athens commenced registration/certification for qualified overseas Filipinos on 2 November 2011. The first day of Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV) registration proceeded smoothly and without incident. A total of 8 Filipinos registered as Overseas Absentee Voters.

The first OAV registrant was Engilbert A. Briones, a 31-year old OFW from Kalithea, Athens, who has been working in Greece for three years now. Mr. Briones traces his roots to Lipa City, Batangas. He expressed his eagerness to take part in the electoral process, specifically through registering as an Overseas Absentee Voter.

The second registrant, 51-year old Mrs. Olivia M. Balbar, has been a stay-in caregiver for her elderly Greek employer in Paleo Psychico, the upscale residential area where the Embassy is located, for almost 20 years now. Originally from

Lian, Batangas, Mrs. Balbar has been working for the same employer since she arrived in Athens in 1992. She said that she has not participated in any voter's registration or election since she left Philippines, and added that she appreciates the Philippine government's effort to reach out to Filipinos abroad through the OAV.

Another registrant, 45-year-old Ms. Victoria A. Mendoza from Ambelokipi, Athens, has been employed for four years now with the Koutsolioutsos family who owns Folli Follie, a Greek company which designs, manufactures, and distributes jewellery, watches and fashion accessories in 25 countries worldwide. As an OFW in Taiwan and now in Athens, she said that she keeps herself abreast of political developments in the Philippines. She is pleased at the opportunity to register as an Overseas Absentee Voter. ■



Consul Charmaine Rowena C. Aviquivil interviews and assists OAV registrant Ms. Olivia M. Balbar.

(Continued from page 1)...Athens PE unveils

mindful of the virtues of the national hero, who "subordinated his personal interests to those of his country" and the welfare of the nation. The Ambassador mentioned that it was also fitting that the installation of the bust, which was initiated by the Embassy in 2007, was completed this year, to also commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the national hero.

Members of the Filipino community present include representatives from Bagong Kapwa Ko Pilipino Organization sa Athens, Philippine Overseas Society, Triskelion Greece Chapter, Timpuyog Ti Daya, Visayas Mindanao Migrants Association in Greece, Pinoy TenPin Bowlers Athens, Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement, Pastoral Group, KASAPI Hellas, Katipunan Philippine Cultural Academy and members of the Accredited Community Partners.

The bust of Dr. Rizal was provided by the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts (NCCA). The NCCA commissioned National artist Abdulmari Imao, for the bust, made of cast bronze. Dr. Rizal's bust is strategically located at the Embassy grounds ready to meet Filipinos and guests visiting the Embassy. ■

(Continued from page 1)...Philippine Ambassador

United States of America from 2002-2006 and in Tokyo, Japan from 1993-2000.

At the Department of Foreign Affairs, he has also headed Divisions at the Office of the Asia and Pacific Affairs and Office of ASEAN Affairs. He has participated in various seminars and conferences and in several high-level visits in the Philippines and abroad.

He graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology in 1982. He also earned a Master of Arts in Asian Studies from the same university in the year 1988. He also attended an Executive Program in Leaders in Development at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University in 2003. ■

Athens PE Participates in the Friends of the Child's 12th International Christmas Bazaar

The Philippine Embassy participated in the 12th International Christmas Bazaar from 26 to 27 November 2011. The bazaar was held at Helexpo Palace in Marousi, Athens. Other embassies also participated in the bazaar.

The bazaar was organized by the Friends of the Child, a charitable association of Greek women which was established in 1987. The proceeds will be used to support the Friends of the Child's Nursery School for children of single mothers in need.

The Philippine Embassy showcased Filipino products such as assorted pastillas, tarts, dried mangoes, bags, place-mats, embroidered cloth, and ladies' accessories (including necklaces made from fresh water pearls).



Ambassador Meynardo LB. Montealegre and some Embassy staff with the Friends of the Child President Marilena Mamidakis during the 12th International Christmas Bazaar.

Filipino food products that have been enjoying popular patronage were also sold during the event. ■

Community News

We welcome Pinoy news!

Send us your letters, news stories, press or photo releases for publication in the newsletter via regular mail, e-mail.



FILBAG 8th Anniversary and Awarding Ceremonies. Ambassador Meynardo LB. Montealegre speaks during the Filipino Bowlers in Athens, Greece's 8th Anniversary and Awarding ceremonies held on 8 October 2011 at Stratos Vassilikos Hotel in Athens.



FILBAG Bowling Tournament. Ambassador Montealegre awards the UVM Group as the "Best in Uniform" during the opening ceremonies of FILBAG Bowling Tournament held on 16 October 2011 at the Metropolitan Bowling Center.



ATHENS PE Regular Filcom-Consular Meeting. Ambassador Meynardo Montealegre meets Filcom members for a regular dialogue with the Filipino community on 29 October 2011 at the Embassy.



El Shaddai Greece Chapter 18th Anniversary. Ambassador Montealegre delivers his inspirational message during the 18th Anniversary of El Shaddai held on 13 November 2011 at Leondio Lykeio, Athens.



Tagalog Mass Celebration. Ambassador Montealegre and some embassy personnel at the Tagalog Mass organized by the Filipino community in Athens held on 13 November at St. Denis Roman Catholic Cathedral.



KAPHILCA PTCA Officers 2011-2012 Induction. Ambassador Montealegre together with Dr. Marcos Fojas during the induction of the new officers of the KAPHILCA Parents, Teachers and Community Organization for SY 2011-2012 held on 17 December 2011 at KAPHILCA.



Philippine Embassy Simbang Gabi Sponsorship. The Philippine Embassy led by Ambassador Montealegre sponsors the Simbang Gabi on 16 December 2011 held at Miraculous Medal Center in Patission. The mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Winifredo George Padilla, III OP and assisted by Sr. Emma Rivero., DC.



Philippine Guardians Brotherhood Inc 8th Anniversary and Christmas Party. Ambassador Montealegre attends the PGBI's 8th Anniversary and Christmas celebration on 26 December 2011 in Athens.



Philippine Overseas Society Christmas & New Year Celebration. Ambassador Montealegre at the POS celebration of Christmas held on 25 December 2011 at the President Hotel in Athens.

PhilippiNews

is published by the Embassy of the Philippines in Athens, Greece.

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The Philippine Embassy bids farewell to ...



Minister and Consul General Constancio R. Vingno, Jr. has been cross-posted from Philippine Embassy in Athens, Greece to Pretoria, South Africa to assume his post as Ambassador.

A veteran diplomat, Minister Vingno, entered the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1977. He has been assigned in different offices at the Department.

He has also served at the Philippine foreign missions in Germany, Romania, Austria, and Japan.

Minister Vingno, was the Charge d'Affaires, a.i. during the evacuation of Filipinos from Libya through Crete, Greece. He coordinated with different Greek authorities for the successful evacuation process.

Minister Vingno is an AB Economics graduate of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila. He also attended the Ateneo de Manila College of Law in 1980. ■



Atty. Venus D. Bravo ended her tour of duty as the Embassy's Welfare Officer to Greece on 30 October 2011.

WelOff Bravo extended assistance to many of the Overseas Filipino Workers in Athens. She joined many of the Embassy's mobile consular outreach programs to reach out and assist Filipinos to become an OWWA member.

As a member of Crisis Management Team during the evacuation of Filipinos from Libya through Crete, Greece, she assisted Filipino evacuees and attended to their needs during the evacuation.

WelOff Bravo had been previously posted as Welfare Officer in Bahrain and Taiwan.

Born on 12 August 1950, WelOff Bravo attained a degree in Bachelor of Laws in 1976 and passed the Bar examinations in the same year. ■



Mrs. Josephine S. Tobia ended her tour of duty as the Embassy's Welfare Officer assigned in Cyprus on 22 December 2011.

WelOff Tobia extended assistance to many of the Overseas Filipino Workers in Cyprus. She actively participated in many Filcom events in coordination with the Philippine Honorary Consulate in Cyprus.

She effectively implemented the programs and seminars for the OFWs in different parts of Cyprus.

WelOff Tobia had been previously posted as Welfare Officer in Singapore and Tokyo.

Born on 22 February 1956, Wel Off Tobia attained a degree in Visual Communication from the University of the Philippines. ■

... and welcomes ...



Atty. Romulo D. Salud was transferred from Philippine Consulate in Hongkong SAR to Athens on 10 September 2011 enroute to assume his duties as the new Labor Attachè assigned in Cyprus.

Labat Salud has been previously assigned to the Manila Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan.

Labat Salud also has worked at the Philippine National Oil Company as Department Manager from 1994 to 1998 and the Land Bank of the Philippines as Regional Manager from 1987 to 1984.

He attained a degree in Bachelor of Laws from the San Beda College in 1976 and passed the same year. He also attended a Program for Management Development: Managing Critical Issues at University of Michigan Business School. ■



Mrs. Leonor C. Mabagal arrived in Athens on 25 November 2011 to assume the position of Welfare Officer to Greece.

Welfare Officer Mabagal has been previously posted as Welfare Officer to Sapan, USA. Prior to her assignment in Greece, WelOff Mabagal was Officer-in-Charge of the Programs Services Division of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration in Cagayan de Oro.

Born on 26 September 1960 in Lagolong, Misamis Oriental, WelOff mabagal graduated with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business from the Ateneo de Davao University in 1981.

She also earned a Master in Public Administration from Mindanao Polytechnic State College. ■



Mrs. Sylvia C. Valdez arrived in Athens on 09 December 2011 to assume the position of Welfare Officer assigned in Cyprus.

Welfare Officer Valdez was the Supervising Labor and Employment Officer of the Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). Wel Off Valdez is a regular DOLE resource person in the field of occupational safety and health.

Born on 31 December 1961 in Alfonso, Cavite, WelOff Valdez, graduated with a degree in Bachelor in Business Journalism from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in 1983.

She also earned a Master in Public Administration from Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila. ■

Consular Updates

Athens PE Conducts Consular Outreach for E-Passport in Rhodes and Cyprus



Embassy personnel attend to passport applicants in Rhodes, Greece.

The Embassy conducted a consular outreach mission to Rhodes, Greece on 3-5 September 2011. The five-member consular team led by Mr. Hermogenes Garcia and which included Welfare Officer Venus Bravo and Pag-Ibig Representative Jean Santos, rendered consular services in Rhodes, Greece. They

were assisted by some Filipino community members during the outreach mission. The team catered to 32 E-passport applicants and rendered other consular services.

On 10-11 December 2011, another consular outreach mission was conducted in Nicosia, Cyprus. The three-member consular team led by Mr. Garcia rendered consular services at the Office of Honorary Consul Shemaine Bushnell-Kyriakides. The team was also assisted by some members of the Overseas Filipino Volunteer Cyprus (OFVC). The team processed 356 E-passports and rendered other consular services. ■



Passport applicants queuing for the renewal of their passports during the consular outreach in Nicosia, Cyprus.

New Schedule of Consular Services Every Second Sunday of the Month

The Philippine Embassy wishes to inform the public that starting November 2011, the new schedule of consular services every second Sunday of the month will be from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Information Campaign on the Possibility of Voluntary Return of Third Country Nationals into their Countries of Origin

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Greece, in cooperation with the Ministry of Citizen Protection/Hellenic Police Headquarters and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHRC) -Office in Greece, in the framework of the European Return Fund is implementing the Program: **“Preparation, implementation of voluntary return actions for third country nationals and reception into their countries of origin” for the following target groups:**

- Third country nationals who do not fulfill the conditions for entry and stay in the country.
- Third country nationals whose request for asylum is still pending or has been rejected.
- Third country nationals, who enjoy international protection, but nonetheless wish to return to their countries.

Through this program, IOM undertakes all legal steps to assist qualified applicants in returning to their country of origin with safety and dignity.

More specifically, IOM is making the following arrangements:

- Registration and identification of those who wish to return to their countries of origin.
- Coordination with Embassies in the issuance of travel documents.

- Issuance of tickets.
- Provision of financial assistance.
- Escorting to the airport while departing from Greece and reception in the transit and final destination country (country of origin).

For more information, those who are interested can contact IOM, at 210 991 9040 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The program is implemented in the framework of the national actions of the European Return Fund and is co-financed by European Funds (75%) and National Funds (25%)

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

The International Organization for Migration is an international intergovernmental organization, with 127 member states, 17 Observer States and 460 offices worldwide. IOM cooperates with Governments and other International Organizations to ensure the orderly migration of refugees, displaced persons and migrants in general who are in need on international protection services.

Greece is a founding member of the International Organization for Migration. The Mission in Greece operates in the country, based on an Agreement signed in 1952 between the Greek Government and IOM (former ICEM). The Greek Mis-

sion of IOM provides a wide range of services in varied areas, such as:

- Resettlement of foreign migrants, refugees or asylum seekers from Greece to countries offering permanent settlement opportunities.
- Voluntary return of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
- Coordination of the national network for combating trafficking in human participation of state entities, Embassies, Consulates and NGOs.
- Provision of migratory consultative services to the Government.
- Provision of information and support to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who address themselves to the Mission.
- Participation in transnational programs and researches, in cooperation with other IOM Missions.

THE EUROPEAN RETURN FUND

The European Return Fund was created in the framework of the European Union Program **“Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows” for the period 2008-2013**. The general objective of the Fund is to support the efforts of Member States, as well as national actions that are unforeseen with the view to achieving the goals of the Community, on the basis of solidarity and with respect to community legislation and fundamental rights.

Source: IOM

Cyprus Corner

Pamaskong Handog 2011 sa mga OFWs sa Cyprus

The Christmas event in Cyprus was held on December 18, 2011 at the European University Nicosia entitled *Pamaskong Handog sa mga OFWs sa Cyprus 2011*. The event is in recognition of the OFWS' valuable contribution to the Philippine economy and to make the presence of PHC- POLO-OWWA more meaningful.

Fr. Zacheus Dulniok, a Polish Priest, opened the program with a thanksgiving prayer followed by the welcome remarks of the new Labor attaché, Atty Romulo Salud.

Labatt Salud along with the outgoing Welfare Officer Josephine Tobia hosted the whole show to the delight of the audience.

The highlight of the event was the recognition ceremonies of 300 OFWs who finished the training courses in Basic Caregiver conducted by Houston Medical Limited, Business Counseling mentored by Mr. Manuel Tobia and the Computer Course/ECDL under the tutelage of the Cyprus Computer Society. Majority of the graduates came all the way from Limassol. Course graduates prepared their respective audio visual presentations as proof that the reintegration courses started in Cyprus have been successful.

Landbank, whose advocacy for savings is known, also presented a brief AVP for the public. A considerable number of OFWs have enrolled in the LBP OFW Savings account prompting LBP to send its representative bi-annually in Cyprus.

A fund raising campaign was also part of the event where proceeds of the raffle tickets will go to the Tuloy Aral Project of OWWA. This project assists former OFWs who need assis-



Wel Off Tobia hosting the 2011 Pamaskong Handog sa mga OFWs sa Cyprus.

tance for their children to continue their elementary and high school education in the Philippines. The amount of 1000 euros raised will assist at least six children in their schooling for this school year.

Entertainment is a vital part of such events. A creative contest with the basic criteria of using improvised musical instruments and costumes brought out Filipino ingenuity in a simple but fun-filled caroling contest. Thirteen OFW organizations joined the competition vying for the English and Tagalog categories with fervor.

The first prize winner received €150.00, with €75.00 going to the second placer and €50.00 to the third placer. Vespers Choral Group, Jennifer & Friends, St. Joseph The Migrant Social Center won in the English category while Bibak, OFVC & Cy Angels won in the Tagalog category.

Landbank of the Philippines and Pagibig Overseas Program were the major sponsors of

the contest. Raffle prizes were sponsored by Ethad, Pancyrian Association of Registered Private Recruitment Offices, POLO and OWWA.

To close the event, heartwarming tributes to the outgoing Welfare Officer, Mrs. Josephine Sanchez- Tobia, were given by the various organizations she has served, such as the OFW Family Club of Nicosia, Overseas Filipino Volunteers in Cyprus, Business Club-Limassol, First Aiders, ECDL of Limassol, BIBAK, St Joseph Social Center and other individuals. They prepared special segments in the program to show their gratitude to the person who started the Reintegration Program in Cyprus for OFWs along with Mr Manuel Tobia who mentored then and was the proponent of the European Computer Driving License (ECDL) in Nicosia & Limassol, a first in the OFW community in Europe. The Tobia couple were overwhelmed with the warm messages conveyed by the OFW community.

Honorary Consul Shemaine Kyriakides graced the occasion and stayed the whole day as her way of reciprocating the OFWs' support for the honorary consulate's programs and services.

The event was made successful by the working committee from the active Filipino community groups of OFWFC, OFVC, Business Counseling group and the ECDL team. ■



HonCon Kyriakides with Wel Off Tobia together with the Filipino community.

MAHALAGANG PATALASTAS

PARA SA MGA KABABAYAN NATING NAIS MAGPADALA NG DONASYON/AMBAG PARA SA NASALANTA NG BAGYONG SENDONG, MAARI NINYONG IPADALA ITO SA MGA SUMUSUNOD NA AHENSYA NG ATING GOBYERNO:

1. NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

(NDRRMC) Website: www.ndrrmc.gov.ph

ACCOUNT NAME: NDRRMC DONATED FUNDS

ACCOUNT NO. : 0435-021927-130

(SWIFT CODE : DBPHPHMM ACCOUNT # 36002016)

ADDRESS : DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
CAMP GENERAL EMILIO AGUINALDO BRANC
PVAO COMPOUND
CAMP AGUINALDO, QUEZON CITY, PHILS

CONTACT PERSON: MS. RUFINA A. PASCUAL
NDRRMC COLLECTING OFFICER
OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE
CAMP AGUINALDO, QUEZON CITY
CONTACT NOS.:(+632) 421-1920; 911 5061 65

2. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) Website: www.dsdw.gov.ph

CONTACT PERSON: MS. FE CATALINA EA
CASH DIVISION

CONTACT NOS.:(+632) 931 8101 LOC 226; 09186281897

US DOLLAR	PHILIPPINE PESO
DSWD FOREIGN DONATIONS ACCOUNT NO.3124-0055-81	DSWD DONATION ACCOUNT NO. 3122-1011-84

3. FOR NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, MAARING IPADALA ANG DONASYON (IN CASH OR IN KIND) SA MGA SUMUSUNOD:

- PHILIPPINE RED CROSS (www.redcross.org.ph)
- GMA KAPUSO FOUNDATION
- ABS-CBN FOUNDATION

SA MGA MAGPAPADALA ONLINE, ANG PRC AT GMA WEBSITES AY MAY ONLINE FACILITY NA MADALING GAMITIN AT HINDI NA KINAKAILANGANG MAGPUNTA SA BANKO O SA REMITTANCE CENTER. ANG GMA FOUNDATION AY TUMATANGGAP DIN NG DONASYON SA PAMAMAGITAN NG CREDIT CARDS. KUNG MAGPAPADALA SA ABS-CBN Foundation, MAARI LAMANG NA MAG-EMAIL SA foundation@abs-cbn.com DAHIL ANG KANILANG ONLINE FACILITY AY KASALUKUYANG GINAGAWA/INAAYOS.

LABOR PAGE

POLO CONDUCTS FREE HEALTH SCREENING

POLO is inviting all Filipino Overseas Workers and their families to avail of the regular free health screening every first Sunday of the month, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the POLO-FWRC. The first health screening however, shall be held on the second Sunday, 08 January 2012.

Health screening includes medical consultation, cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar level check-up. ■

PHILIPPINE EMBASSY-POLO ANNOUNCES OPENING OF FREE SKILLS TRAININGS

The Philippine Embassy –Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Athens, Greece announces the opening of the following free skills training and capability building/enhancement seminar for OFWs to be held at POLO-FWRC at 158 Sevastoupoleos, Ambelokipi for the first quarter of 2012.

Training and Courses Offered:

Caregiving
08 Jan. to 18 Mar.2012,
every Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Basic Greek Language Course
8 Jan. to18 Mar., every Sunday , from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Advance Greek Language Course
14 Jan. to17 Mar., every Saturday , from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Basic Computer Literacy Course
14 Jan. to17 Mar., every Saturday , from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Registration starts on 11 December 2011. For more information please call FWRC and look for Welfare Officer Leonor Mabagal at telephone numbers : 210 698 2871 and 693 7487 838. ■



For more details please contact Mrs. Jean V. Santos at tel. nos. 210 698 3265/ 693 7124 927/ 697 742 5678



Pag-IBIG Representative Jean Santos assisting the Filcom members with their membership application during the consular outreach held on 3-4 September 2011 in Rhodes, Greece. ■



Filipinos in Cyprus pay their membership contribution on 17 December 2011 in Nicosia, Cyprus. ■

The Philippine Embassy hosted a farewell party for Consul General Constancio R. Vingno, Jr. held on 13 December 2011 at the Embassy premises.



Farewell Parties



The Philippine Embassy hosted a farewell party for Welfare Officer Venus Bravo held on 29 October 2011 at the Embassy premises. Filcom members were also present to bid farewell to Wel Off Bravo.