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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE  
IN THE PHILIPPINES  
AND  
THE MANILA ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE  
IN TAIWAN  
ON THE SPECIAL HIRING PROGRAM

This **Memorandum of Understanding** entered into by and between the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Philippines, hereinafter referred to as **TECO**, represented by its Representative, **Donald C.T. Lee**; and the Manila Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan, hereinafter referred to as **MECO**, represented by its Representative, **Antonio I. Basilio**;

*WHEREAS*, for the purpose of the renewal of the existing Memorandum of Understanding, the designated representative of the Council of Labor Affairs (CLA) is **TECO** and the designated representative of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) is **MECO**.

*WHEREAS*, the Parties recognize the need to continue to promote the interest and welfare of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) through the implementation of socially compliant policies and programs;

*WHEREAS*, the Parties have jointly conceived and agreed to implement a socially responsive program that was designed to optimize the benefits of overseas employment for both workers and employers;

*WHEREAS*, that program has been referred to as the Special Hiring Program;

*WHEREAS*, the Parties agree to continue the implementation of the Special Hiring Program which allows employers in Taiwan to hire Filipino workers without the intervention of the manpower agencies from both territories;

*WHEREAS*, the Parties in the spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, the proper documentation of qualified Filipino workers shall be ensured through a facilitative delivery system;

WHEREAS, the Parties are committed to adopt measures to advance the interest of both, Filipino workers and Taiwanese employers;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, and in order that the Special Hiring Program shall be implemented effectively, the Parties agree on the following:

1. The coverage of the Special Hiring Program shall include the:
  - 1.1 Hiring of Filipino domestic helpers, household caretakers, institutional caretakers and workers in manufacturing, construction and oceanic fishery industries as name hires or new hires;
  - 1.2 Hiring of Filipino domestic helpers, household caretakers, institutional caretakers and workers in manufacturing, construction and oceanic fishery industries as rehires;
2. The Parties shall agree to regulate and process certain job categories, which would require employers to hire Filipino workers through the Special Hiring Program.
3. The Special Hiring Program shall adopt a prescribed employment contract for every specific category of skill which is mutually acceptable to the Parties and are consistent with the prevailing rules and regulations of the Parties;
4. The Special Hiring Program shall be regarded as an option for employers and shall not prevent them from hiring through manpower agencies. However, both parties shall set up a system whereby reputable  
// Taiwan manpower agencies shall be selected and encouraged to hire workers through the Special Hiring Program.
5. The Parties shall set up a one-stop window and labor selection mechanism for the Special Hiring Program to assist employers and worker in completing the recruitment processes;

6. The schedule of expenses of workers hired through the Special Hiring Program shall be mutually agreed by the Parties without prejudice to the welfare of the workers and relevant laws and rules of the Parties;
7. To provide the necessary support for the Special Hiring Program, the Parties shall establish mutually acceptable guidelines, systems, procedures and mechanisms through regular and continuing consultations, with the end view of simplifying and facilitating the hiring and deployment of foreign workers hired through the Special Hiring Program at the least possible costs;
8. Both Parties shall coordinate to protect Filipino workers from exploitation and human trafficking through sharing and dissemination information on human trafficking, as well as providing needed travel documents to victims for their safe return;
9. This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective from the date of signature by the Parties and shall be valid for four years, subject to extension as mutually decided in writing by the Parties. Either Party may terminate this MOU at any time before the expiry date by giving written notice to the other Party, citing the reasons for such termination.

In witness, whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

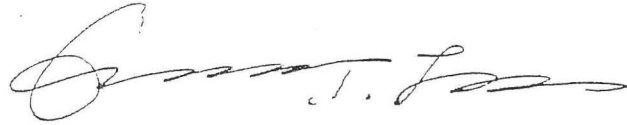
Signed, in duplicate copies in the Chinese and English languages, both texts being equally authentic, in Tagaytay, Philippines on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July 2011. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Manila Economic and  
Culture Office in Taiwan

For the Taipei Economic and  
Cultural Office in the Philippines

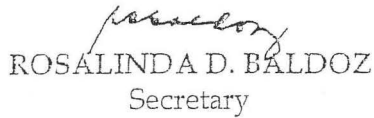


ANTONIO I. BASILIO  
Resident Representative

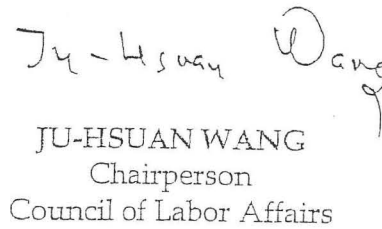


DONALD C.T. LEE  
Representative

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:



ROSALINDA D. BALDOZ  
Secretary  
Department of Labor and Employment



JU-HSUAN WANG  
Chairperson  
Council of Labor Affairs