

[**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 41, April 29, 2011**]

REACTIVATING THE PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE AGAINST ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT CREATED UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 759 (S. 2008) AND STRENGTHENING THE SAME

WHEREAS, the Presidential Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (PTFAIR) created under Executive Order No. 759 (s. 2008), which is tasked to coordinate programs and initiatives of all government agencies concerning illegal recruitment, was automatically dissolved after two years from its effectivity;

WHEREAS, despite concerted efforts to eliminate illegal recruitment, this social menace continues to persist and pose a continuing threat to Filipino workers, their financial resources and properties;

WHEREAS, the State has the obligation to safeguard public interest and to prevent Filipino workers from being victimized by unscrupulous recruiters and their cohorts and to bring to justice these perpetrators of illegal recruitment;

WHEREAS, to effectively combat illegal recruitment, it is critical for concerned government agencies at the national and local levels to cooperate, collaborate, and coordinate with each other more effectively and in partnership with non-government organizations and other concerned private entities;

WHEREAS, there is a need to reactivate and strengthen the PTFAIR under the supervision of the Vice President, being the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Workers' Concerns, in order to sustain a more focused, coordinated, and effective program of action to curb illegal recruitment; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of 1987 provides that the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Executive Branch of the government.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Reactivating and Strengthening the PTFAIR. The PTFAIR is hereby reactivated and strengthened. It shall be under the supervision of the Vice President of the Philippines for policy and program coordination.

SECTION 2. Composition. The PTFAIR shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson:	The Vice President
Vice-Chairpersons:	Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Secretary, Department of Justice (DOJ)
Members:	Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary, Department of the Interior

and Local Government (DILG) Administrator,
Philippine Overseas Employment
Agency (POEA)

Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration (BI)

Prosecutor General, DOJ

Director, National Bureau of Investigation
(NBI)

Head, Philippine National Police – Criminal

Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-
CIDG)

General Manager, Manila International Airport
Authority (MIAA)

The Chairperson may recommend to the President the inclusion of other members to the PTF AIR as the circumstances and exigencies may require.

SECTION 3. Functions. The PTF AIR shall coordinate programs and initiatives of the government agencies concerned in addressing illegal recruitment, which shall include, but not limited to the following:

- a. Development and execution of strategies and schemes against the modus operandi of illegal recruiters, such as "escort" services within international airports and other ports of departure;
- b. Development and execution of strategies against syndicates responsible for tampering with and the sale of spurious passports and travel documents; and
- c. Prosecution of illegal recruiters and syndicates, their cohorts, protectors, and coddlers.

SECTION 4. Powers. In pursuit of its functions as defined in the preceding section, the PTF AIR shall have the responsibility and authority to:

- a. Conduct surveillance and entrapment operations of persons alleged to be engaged in illegal recruitment as defined in Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8042, as amended, including, but not limited to, "escort" services at international airports and other ports of departure, and to effect warrants of arrests through its law enforcement arm;
- b. Cause or direct the immediate investigation and speedy prosecution of cases involving illegal recruitment and monitor the progress of such cases;
- c. Coordinate with existing bodies, agencies, and other instrumentalities currently involved in the campaign against illegal recruitment;
- d. Hire lawyers, operatives, and support staff in such number as the circumstances and exigency of the service may require, whose terms shall be coterminous with that of the PTF AIR;