

[OP ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 247, December 04, 2008]

JOB MARKETS FOR FILIPINO EXPATRIATE WORKERS

WHEREAS, the challenging times require out-of-the-box, not business-as-usual solutions;

WHEREAS, the POEA should be challenged by the challenging overseas employment environment into crafting aggressive overseas employment strategies that defy the trend of a constricting job market;

WHEREAS, an examination of the global examination map indicates that the sheer volume of requirements of new job markets, if properly exploited by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, is adequate to fill up the possible slack that may be caused by the constricting market in the traditional host countries such as the continental United States;

WHEREAS, several regions in Canada are at an unprecedented recruitment binge;

WHEREAS, a building boom in Guam will soon energize the recruitment of skilled Filipinos;

WHEREAS, the United Arab Emirates is not about to slow down on the hiring of Filipino expatriates;

WHEREAS, the recruitment of information technology (IT) professionals, those skilled in hard-core and embedded technologies, has intensified and has shown no sign of tapering off;

WHEREAS, the placement of Philippine merchant marine officers, from the ordinary able-bodied seaman to the prized vessel chief engineers and captains, has been on the rise despite the reported slow down in the shipping business;

WHEREAS, a mere Philnits certification, the informal board examination for the Philippine IT professionals, is enough to secure a Japanese work visa;

WHEREAS, the best and the most competitive workers are the first to be recruited and the last to be laid off;

WHEREAS, with world-class skills come tenure and job security; WHEREAS, the aforementioned principle applies across the globe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) shall execute a paradigm shift by refocusing its functions from regulation