



Officers of the Philippine Consulate General in Jeddah led by Consul Garibay during the flag raising ceremony.

14 June 2012 - The Philippine Consulate General in Jeddah commemorated the 114th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence with a morning flag-raising ceremony at the 4th

Floor of the Consulate and an evening Diplomatic Reception at the Al-Sultan Ballroom, Hotel Intercontinental last June 12.

During the flag raising ceremony, Philippine Consul General to Jeddah Uriel Norman Garibay led the reading of messages by government officials, highlighted by that of President Benigno S. Aquino III.

This was followed by the awarding of certificates of appreciation to Area Coordinators, the Consulate's partners in helping Filipino nationals in those places difficult to reach outside Jeddah.

Representatives from the various Filipino Community organizations and members of the Philippine Saudi Business Club also joined the ceremony.

A simple *salu-salo* or *Brunch ng Bayan* capped the flag raising ceremony.

In his speech during the diplomatic reception, Consul General Garibay highlighted the contributions of our overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) to the continuing struggle for independence, particularly for progress and development of the Philippines, through their hard work and sacrifices in the Western Region of the Kingdom.

He noted that the vigorous partnership between the Philippines and Saudi Arabia compliments the efforts to promote development for both nations.

He further expressed the intention of the Philippines to broaden bilateral relations with Saudi Arabia through economic diplomacy, particularly in trade, tourism and investments.



Consul General Garibay, Director General Tayyeb and the Philippine Chorale during the Diplomatic Reception

~~the Consul General in Jeddah, Mr. Garibay, and the Philippine Chorale during the Diplomatic Reception~~